

FORESTRY

SEPTEMBER 1949

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AMERICAN

CATTLE PRODUCER

• THE CATTLEMAN'S BUSINESS MAGAZINE

IN THIS ISSUE:
TEXAS TOUR
MIAMI

• PRICE OUTLOOK
• GULLY PLUGGING
• COMMENTS ON PLANNING

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Letters To The Editor

LIKED TESTIMONY—Just a few lines to extend a pat on the back to Loren Bamert and Sam Hyatt on the testimony given on the proposed Brannan plan, July 19, 1949. Many of us are prone to write letters when somebody does something we don't approve of, but the good things we accept without comment. Loren's statement, I believe, is the best I have read regarding the general unworkability of the Brannan plan, while Mr. Hyatt's resume of why it won't work as applied to the range livestock industry is in language even a congressman should be able to understand. It's beyond me, just how the designers of the plan would apply it to normal marketing of feeder cattle, which in a great many instances pass through several hands, and still have the subsidy given proper consideration in the price paid the producer. After all, he is the individual the plan proposes to assist, but in actual operation of the normal marketing of range cattle he is farthest removed from the subsidy payment.

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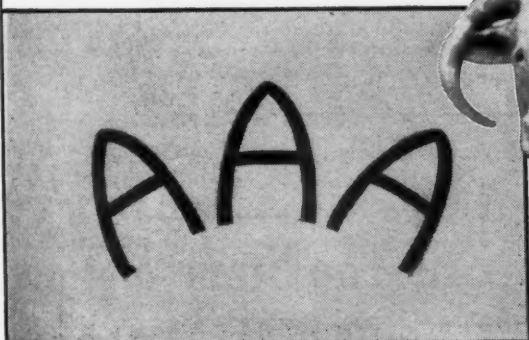
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"COWS WINTER WELL... HAVE PLENTY MILK,"

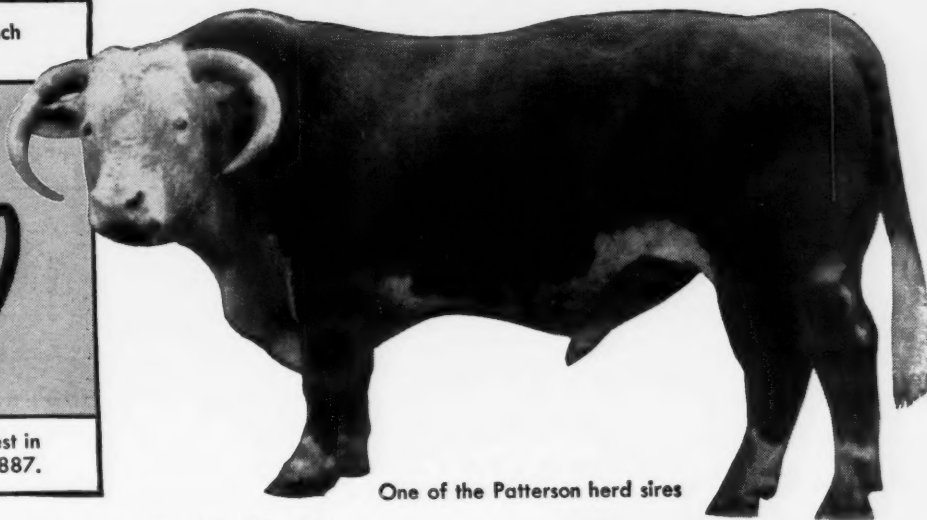
reports Purina feeder J. D. Patterson, J. D. Patterson Ranch, Peacock, Texas



Young bulls in feedlot on Patterson Ranch



The Patterson brand is one of the oldest in the county. It has been in use since 1887.



One of the Patterson herd sires

Better condition of cows, earlier calves, heavier calves at weaning... these were the results when cows were fed Purina Range Breeder Checkers (compared to cows fed on cake) in the famous range feeding experiment at Caruthers-Campbell Ranch, Barnhart, Texas.

Cattle and sheep raisers all

over the country are finding it's the VARIETY in Checkers that makes the big difference. Checkers contain enough of the right ingredients... the correct amount of protein, lots more carbohydrates, calcium and other minerals and vitamin A (extra high in Range Breeder Checkers for use on poor range).

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Try Range Checkers this winter. If you have been feeding a single-protein supplement you'll see the difference VARIETY in a ration can make.



VARIETY DOES MAKE A DIFFERENCE

What's phosphorus

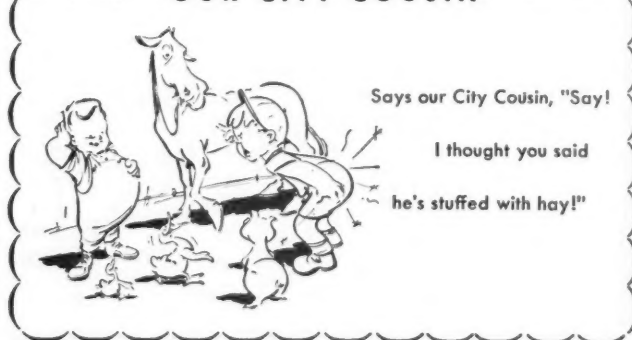
Just a half a pound of your 250-lb. pig is phosphorus. This seems a small amount. But without it, your pig would die. And there are other minerals just as vital to livestock. Some they need in quite large amounts... calcium and sodium as well as phosphorus. Others we call *trace elements*. These they need in very small amounts... such as cobalt, iron, copper and manganese.

But your animals *do need* these trace elements. The people at the agricultural colleges have proved that past all doubt. Some minerals are a "must" if you want to raise healthy, fast-gaining cattle. That goes for lambs and hogs, too. For example, these men find that grass and grains in Dade County, Florida, are short of copper and iron. Clallam County, Washington, needs iodine to check goiter. They know that San Diego County, California, hasn't enough phosphorus. In Aroostook County, Maine, the scarce mineral is cobalt. Ranchers and farmers in these four corners of the country have this problem. *Their feeds and forages are short of one or more vital minerals.* Many other areas share the problem, including parts of the great Corn Belt.

But you ask, "How can I spot animals which suffer from mineral shortage?" It's not too easy. If the lack is serious, your stock may have rickets, "big neck," anemia or other ailments. But there are some early symptoms you can spot. These are bone chewing, loss of appetite, slow gains, rough and scrubby coats. Or just a general unthrifty condition gives you the clue. If you start feeding a mineral which contains the essential trace elements, you may bring them around fast. But if this doesn't work, then you should consult your veterinarian, county agent or agricultural college.

The common mineral deficiencies in your area are known. By feeding mineral-balanced rations, you can correct these lacks. Or you can build up the mineral content of the soil. Either, or both, of these will help you grow healthier livestock, at a lower cost.

OUR CITY COUSIN



Martha Logan Recipe for FRENCH MEATWICH

Make sandwich of 2 slices of bread, using 1 slice of cold meat and 1 slice of cheese as the filling. Dip each sandwich into a mixture made of 1 slightly beaten egg and 1/4 cup milk. Pan fry in a small amount of butter, margarine or clear drippings over low heat. Turn to brown. Serve at once with cole slaw or fruit salad.



William H. Burkitt

Supplemental Mineral Wintering Range Ewe

by William H. Burkitt
Montana State College

Thirteen mineral elements are known to be necessary for normal functioning of an animal body. However, this does not mean that all 13 must be supplied in a mineral mixture. Many of them are present under usual feeding conditions, in sufficient amounts for breeding ewes. Those lacking in Montana include sodium and chlorine (salt), iodine, phosphorus, and possibly cobalt.

Lack of sufficient iodine in the ration of pregnant ewes results in lambs being born with "big neck" (goiter). The wool in lambs may also result. If dead or weak lambs are shown "big neck" or thin wool at birth in past years, stabilized iodized salt should definitely be fed the ewes this winter.

Phosphorus deficiency may exist in wintering range ewes particularly if there is little or no supplemental feeding. Abortions and weak lambs may result from deficient phosphorus. Pregnant ewes should have from 0.16% to 0.18% phosphorus in their feed. Many grass hays and winter range grasses contain less than 0.15% phosphorus and some contain as low as 0.04% phosphorus. Bone meal, defluorinated rock phosphates, and monosodium phosphate are satisfactory sources of phosphorus. Palatability and consumption may be improved by mixing with salt.

Cobalt is believed to be needed by micro-organisms in the paunch. A lack results in loss of appetite, less feed consumption, and eventually starvation. A possible cobalt deficiency may be guarded against by mixing 1 ounce of cobalt salt with each 100 pounds of stock salt. Cobalt carbonate, chloride, or sulfate are all satisfactory. (Editor's note: The principles of nutrition discussed above apply to most kinds of livestock and in all parts of the country.)

Soda Bill Sez ...

If your grass is receding, it's time to re-seed.
Don't "itch" for what you want—scratch for it.



FREE! The Story of Poultry

Children and grownups, too—here's another booklet in Swift's popular Elementary Science Series. Like the others in the series (on Soils, Plants, Meat Animals and Grass), "The Story of Poultry" (Booklet E) gives the answers to many interesting questions. Do you know—

Where the first chickens came from?
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How the shell gets around an egg? You'll find the answers to these and dozens of other questions in "The Story of Poultry." Lots of pictures—easy-to-read words. Write for your copy today and send this notice to your school teacher. Yes, there are free copies for every kid in your class, if requested by your teacher. If you'd like the other booklets in the series mentioned above, ask for them, too. They are all FREE. Address your letters:

Agricultural Research Dept., Story of Poultry

Swift & Company UNION STOCK YARD
CHICAGO 9, ILLINOIS

AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER

Railroad Freight Rates

THE INTERSTATE COMMERCE COMMISSION recently made its final decision on Ex Parte 168, which was the last petition of several filed by the railroads during and since the war seeking substantial increases in freight rates all along the line. The commission in this instance granted an additional 4 per cent on top of the original 4, 5, and 6 per cent increases granted as temporary measures in the early stages of the proceedings in this same case. These increases are in addition to the several previous percentage increases granted in Ex Partes 162 and 166; and, in the case of livestock, the total increase since the beginning of the war in 1941 amounts to 49 per cent, in the major livestock producing areas of the country, and the increases in the territory east thereof have been somewhat greater.

(We are glad to note that the railroads are finally beginning to recognize the law of diminishing returns. Several of the traffic bureaus have recently moved to cut the feeding-in-transit charge from its present rate of 9½-15 cents per cwt. to a flat per-car charge of \$7, plus increases under Ex Partes 162, 166 and 168. This, in order to attempt to hold the second haul out of the feeding point. Similar reductions in other rates are clearly in order.)

Many people have questioned the wisdom of these more recent increases on commodities where competition is available, and where the record already shows substantial diversion of traffic to the trucks. In both 1947 and 1948, although the rates were sharply higher, the revenue secured by the railroads on edible livestock traffic failed by \$12,900,000 in 1947 and by \$12,300,000 in 1948 to match the revenue from edible livestock traffic in 1946. It seems certain that this new increase under Ex Parte 168 will merely accentuate the diversion to the trucks and, instead of helping the railroads, actually will decrease the revenue.

(Another matter that is causing diversion to the trucks is the maintenance of closed gateways. It's high time that something was done about this, also.)

For many years the Interstate Commerce Commission has strongly recommended that the railroads should bring about economies in their operation and greater efficiency in their service, and has pointed out various practical ways that this could be done. The late Commissioner Joseph B. Eastman was particularly active in his studies of this matter, and his recommendations as to the future policy which should be followed.

In the report of the commission on Ex Parte 168, the need for economy and efficiency is again pointed out, and also

the danger of diversion because of too-high (and thus non-competitive) rates. Surely it would appear that the time has come when the railroads no longer can meet the demands of the various brotherhoods for increased wages by simply passing the buck to the fellow who pays the freight. The brotherhoods should recognize this fact also, and temper their demands accordingly. On paper, increased rates bring increased revenue. Actually, they may mean decreased revenue and a decrease in the number employed.

When one sees the large number of freight trains which pass over any of our main arterial railroads daily, and then tries to compute the number of trucks (even the big ones) that would be required to haul the tremendous tonnage of freight included in these trains, it seems impossible to see how the trucks can compete with the railroads. We do not believe they could, over long distances, if the railroads got down to business, published rates that the traffic could bear and in line with the cost of operation. It's time that it was tried, or it will be too late.

Forest Fires

THE COUNTRY generally is disturbed at the increasing spread of forest fires in many sections of the country—particularly in the Northwest, but with some reported in other areas.

Unquestionably the main cause of such fires is an unusually dry season, accompanied by thunder and lightning storms but little rain. Just as unquestionably, the policy of the Forest Service in recent years, in insisting that from 50 to 75 per cent of the grass should be left untouched at the end of the grazing season, is a contributing factor. Nothing will start a fire more quickly than a combination of dry grass and lightning—and the spread of such a fire is incredible.

Two of the worst fires reported in Montana and Idaho have been in primitive areas, and in one case it was reported that there was just no stopping a fire which roared up a gulch with a heavy stand of dry grass in it. Several grass fires have been reported in Yellowstone Park where no grazing except by game animals is permitted.

Stockmen have for years protested this policy of the Forest Service as unsound, uneconomic and, in fact, dangerous. They think it would be a lot better to have the grass eaten than to burn it up.

If the policy referred to above, which has been accentuated in recent years and which seems based on the unsound theory of restoring bunchgrass conditions of a generation or two ago despite the fact that in many cases the replace-

ment grasses are superior to the natural dominant, is not changed, then we can expect an increasing number of forest fires every time there is a relatively dry season; and a damage bill far in excess of what would be necessary under a sound management policy.

Brannan Farm Plan

THE BRANNAN Farm Program has been kicked around in Washington for the past three or four months. One day it would be reported dead; the next, it had a new lease on life. Now it appears fairly definite (if there is any such thing in Washington) that there will be no action this year along the lines of the Brannan proposal.

The battle in the Senate now is whether to continue the 90 per cent supports which are in effect for this year; do nothing in the way of new legislation—which would automatically make effective on January 1, 1950, Title 2 of the Farm Act of 1948 with its flexible support program ranging from 60 to 90 per cent of parity—or a compromise of these two, as recently proposed by Senator Anderson of New Mexico.

Rumor has it that this last proposal has the best chance of winning out. It would raise parity levels on many crops—particularly livestock and dairy products—while lowering them on some others—particularly corn, wheat and cotton. The minimum support payment under the compromise proposal is likely to be 75 per cent of parity.

There has been much speculation lately as to what would happen to the Brannan program next year. The administration has already indicated clear-

(Continued on Page 19)

THE ABANDONED WAIF



CALLING ALL CATTLEMEN

AT the bottom of this piece is a strip showing just a very few of the fish you can try for when you attend the January convention in Miami. If you want to try your prowess you'll have all kinds of cooperation, and you'll probably land a nice big one to commemorate the Florida trip.

Pier 5 Charter Boat Association, Inc., promises all the delegates a warm welcome to the home of some of the finest charter fishing boats in the world. From Pier 5, Miami, you can start out for a day of pleasure and thrills on the Gulf Stream. There, the angler—novice and expert alike—will find albacore, bonito, barracuda, dolphin, kingfish, mackerel, tuna . . . the list of attractions is a seemingly endless one.

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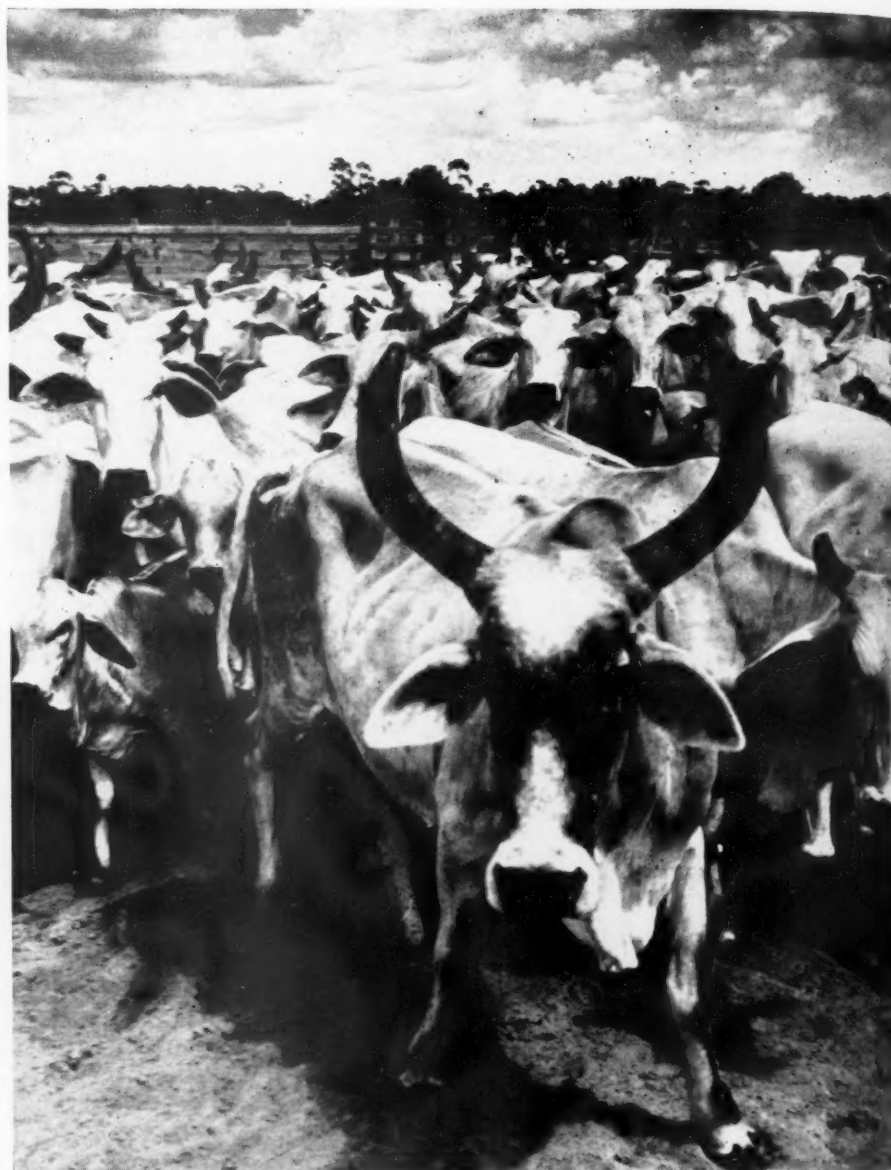
Pier 5 itself is but a short walk through Miami's beautiful Bayfront Park, across Biscayne Boulevard from the downtown hotel section. If you are a newcomer to the city, particularly, you'll find the scenes exciting and novel. The boats are sturdy, sea-going craft which carry all the latest equipment required by law and insurance underwriters. The skippers and mates are experienced boatmen with enviable safety records. The fishing cockpits are shaded by their cabins and fitted with well secured swiveled fishing chairs. This kind of fishing calls for no old clothes, no worms to dig, no bait to catch or buy—you'll be on a holiday and everything will be done to keep things on a holiday level. We're told you'll be welcome to wander along the dock, ask questions of the captains and mates, select your boats, make your arrangements for day and time.

No Bother

There are a few simple rules to be observed; beyond that everything is taken off your hands and the crew is at your service. (Rods and reels are among the items furnished by the boat.) As a climax—there is a photographer on the dock to make pictures of your catch and arm you with indisputable proof of your luck and skill, as well as a representative of a taxidermy firm to preserve the evidence!

Reservation List Growing

Reservations continue to come in at an unprecedented rate. Please send in



yours just as soon as possible, and specify the rate you wish to pay. Many requests for rooms are coming in with no indication of this, which poses rather a problem for the hotel. You should give all the information you possibly can—including times of arrival and departure.

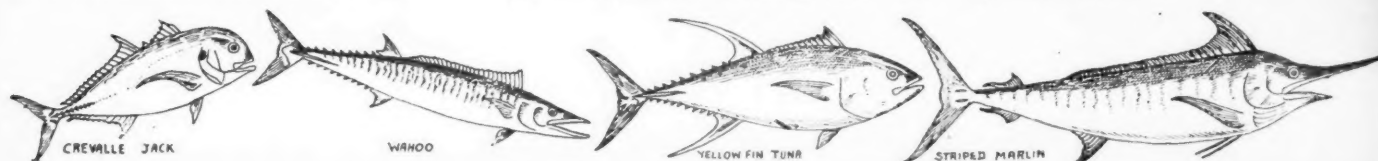
Good storage and service facilities are offered for those people who come to the convention in their own cars. For the others, frequent schedules assure rapid, convenient bus transportation between downtown Miami and all points in the area.

At a committee meeting held last

month in Miami much enthusiasm was shown. The Florida committee's plans are taking definite shape now as to a program for entertaining the convention visitors.

* * *

And now, if you're wondering about the other picture—when we've concentrated so much of this opus on the subject of fishing—that's just to keep us reminded that by golly we're still cattlemen! The Brahman shown is a bit upset about something—a regrettable situation, to be sure, but it did make for an interesting picture, taken in Florida, by C. J. Belden.



The Long-Time Outlook For Beef Cattle Feeders

By PRESTON RICHARDS

WHEN choice grade steers were selling at the highest prices of record some months ago, many beef cattle feeders had an idea that a new era of permanently high prices had dawned. But they were wrong, as events have proved. Now that choice grade steers are averaging about \$15 a hundred pounds under their peak, these same feeders are looking for a long period of extremely low prices. But they may be wrong again, for the long-time outlook for cattle feeders is generally more favorable than for producers of most other agricultural commodities.

On the supply side are a number of encouraging developments that point to permanently lower per-unit production costs. More feed grains are being produced—and more efficiently—than ever before. Forage and pasture resources are being improved, in line with the overall programs to conserve the nation's soil resources. Feeding practices have been improved tremendously over the past 20 years and further improvement

may be expected. New breeding techniques show promise of hastening the development of beef cattle that will make better use of feed and that will command higher prices in the market.

Factors Promise Strong Demand

From the standpoint of demand, there are several factors that point to a heavier total consumption of meat over the years ahead. The population of the United States is now increasing at the rate of 2,000,000 persons annually—and meat is one of the foods most desired by consumers. The maintenance of full employment is one of our national objectives, and, during the next several years, industrial production and employment are expected to continue on a high level. This means increased purchasing power and increased demand.

Any appraisal of the short-time or long-time outlook for beef cattle feeders must include an analysis of the various trends that will affect the outlook. These trends include: (1) feed supplies,

In this article Mr. Richards directs his remarks to the cattle feeder, but what he has to say is of equal interest to the range man. The long-time outlook for feeders is generally more favorable than for producers of most other agricultural commodities, he says, though he warns that it calls for a thorough recognition of the speculative nature of the business. Mr. Richards is assistant director of the livestock branch, Production and Marketing Administration.

(2) the cattle population, (3) the hog population, for pork competes at the meat counter for the consumer's dollar and (4) the probable demand for all red meats.

Favorable growing conditions and high crop yields were general over most of the country last year, and nowhere did Nature smile more than in the Corn Belt. Rains came at the right time. Temperatures were ideal. The 1948 corn crop was the largest of record, exceeding the previous record crop by about 400,000,000 bushels. The total supply of feeds per grain-consuming animal for the 1948-49 feeding season was also the largest of record. It is these large feed supplies which provided the underlying basis for the expansion in cattle feeding operations that has occurred

(Continued on Page 33)



Picture taken on the Kaufman Feedlots, San Jose, Calif.

See Also Story on Ranch Prices, Page 12

Ranch Prices---Whither Bound?

By Mont H. Saunderson

PRICES RECEIVED BY BEEF CATTLE growers of the 11 western states averaged \$22.25 per cwt. during 1948. For 1947, the figure was \$18.50. Range-fat western steers sold, at ranch points, as high as \$29 per cwt. in the late summer of 1948. These all-time high prices have had an inevitable influence upon our concept of the value of ranch properties. Let's have a look at some information that may shed some light on the past, present and prospective future of ranch property values.

Three Types of Stock Ranches

Western stock ranches can be classed into three fairly distinct main types: (1) plains ranches, (2) mountain valley ranches, (3) desert ranches. These three kinds of western stock ranches have some significant differences in production, in operating costs and in income. Mountain valley ranches of the Rocky Mountains and of the intermountain country have the highest production per

animal, the highest operating cost per head, the highest income. Desert cattle ranches of the Southwest and of the intermountain region have the lowest production, the lowest costs and the lowest per-head income. Cattle ranches of the Great Plains have an intermediate production and operating cost, and a net income not very much below that of the mountain valley ranches.

This comparison is shown by the figures given in the table below. Let's study these figures a bit.

Look first at the figures in the left-hand column, the figures showing the differences in production for these different kinds of ranches. These figures show the annual marketing of pounds of beef—as an annual average for a series of years—for each head of stock cattle maintained on the ranches. Sources of these figures are U. S. Department of Agriculture statistics and the ranch studies of western state colleges. These sources show that the better of the mountain valley ranches will,

It is only natural for ranchers to be interested in what the future may bring with respect to ranch prices, and to what extent such prices will eventually level off. In this article Mr. Saunderson, a recognized expert in western ranch economics, believes that values will be substantially above the previous long-time level. Mr. Saunderson is a Forest Service economist.

as an average over a series of years, market 350 pounds of beef for each head of stock cattle carried on the ranch. In contrast, this figure falls to 150 pounds for the marginal of the desert ranches.

These production differences are due, mainly, to inherent differences in the resources of these three types of ranches. Mountain valley ranches, with their green summer feed of the foothills and the uplands, are able to produce grass-fat animals that sell in the slaughter classes and at higher prices. These ranches have a high production, a high income and, due mainly to their three to five months' winter feeding requirement, a high operating cost. Plains ranches produce principally feeder animals, and their production and the prices received are, consequently, substantially less than those of the mountain valley ranches. Their operating cost is also substantially less. Their winter feed is, ordinarily, 30 to 60 days of intermittent hay feeding during the winter, and otherwise their costs are somewhat less.

**WESTERN CATTLE RANCH PRODUCTION, PRICES, COSTS, AND INCOME
1935 TO 1939 COMPARED WITH 1948**

| | Annual Production Per Head | Prices Received for Cattle | | Gross Income Per Head | | Operating Cost Per Head* | | Net Income Per Head | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------|--------------------------|---------|-----------------------------|---------|------------------------|---------|
| | | 1935- 1939 | 1948 | 1935- 1939 | 1948 | 1935- 1939 | 1948 | 1935- 1939 | 1948 |
| Mountain Valley Ranches | 300 lbs. | \$ 7.00 | \$25.00 | \$21.00 | \$75.00 | \$15.00 | \$38.00 | \$ 6.00 | \$37.00 |
| Plains Ranches | 250 lbs. | 6.50 | 22.50 | 16.25 | 56.25 | 12.00 | 27.00 | 4.25 | 29.25 |
| Desert Ranches | 200 lbs. | 5.50 | 20.00 | 11.00 | 40.00 | 8.00 | 20.00 | 3.00 | 20.00 |

* Does not include interest.



Well managed Great Plains grasslands. (Soil Conservation Service photo).

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Desert ranches have a comparatively low production because of lower gains, condition and quality of the cattle. This is reflected in their cattle prices. Production costs are low for these ranches because of year-long grazing and the lower labor and other cost requirements for this kind of range cattle operation.

Livestock Prices and Ranch Incomes

Now, let's look at the comparison given, in the above table, for cattle prices and incomes for the period 1935-39 with the year 1948. Look at those prices of \$5.50 to \$7 per cwt. for the 1935-39 period. There wasn't any "velvet" in those prices, and the operating costs had to be "pared to the bone" to leave any margin for family living and payment of indebtedness. But these prices are fairly representative for the 20 years 1920-40, when western cattle ranching wasn't especially rosy. If you look at those net earnings figures shown in the preceding table for the 1935-39 period, you'll see why. This was the time when the land credit agencies developed the idea that, as a general guide, the value of ranch property was \$40 to \$60 for each head of stock cattle that could be maintained on the ranch.

Next, let's look at the prices and consequent gross incomes for 1948. They have more than tripled, nearly quadrupled, compared with those prices which we once considered more or less "normal." Operating costs have somewhat more than doubled, for 1948 compared with the 1935-39 average, but the net income figures for 1948 are much more than the average annual gross income of the 1935-39 period. Is it any wonder that we are "loose from our moorings" in ranch sale prices and values?

What's the Future?

Recently we have seen western ranch properties sell at prices that result in an investment of \$200 and up to \$500 per animal unit of ranch capacity. Ranches have been selling in the Northern Plains, in eastern Montana and Wyoming and in western North and South Dakota, at prices that result in a real estate investment of \$150 to \$200 per head of cattle now carried by the ranches. This investment is really higher, since these ranches now carry one animal for each 15 to 20 acres of range because of a decade of favorable weather. Double this acreage is the safe long-time standard.

We can't anticipate future ranch sale prices and investment values such as those described above, even though our general price level remains high. If a higher general price level were the only new influence to lift ranch prices and sale values, they probably wouldn't be much above those of the past, for rising costs are catching up with the higher prices and incomes. What other new economic influences are there that may hold western ranch property values above those of the past? There appear to be several. (Continued on Page 37)



Herefords on the Jack Mansfield ranch, Vega, Tex.

THE MARKETS

By H. W. FRENCH

IT HAS BEEN A TWO-WAY market on cattle, with grassers under pressure for weeks. Activity featured good and choice grain-fed steers and heifers but those of lower grade did not fare any better than grass-fat offerings. Receipts were seasonally increased but the gain was in grassers as well finished grain-feds were not so numerous as a month ago.

Interest centers on what may happen during the next two months, both on fat and feeder cattle. One feeder asked, "What are cattle going to do this fall?" and the answer was that "that was a \$64 question," to which the feeder had a quick comeback, remarking that he would give \$64.50 to know.

Opinions are varied but most of them are hardly as bearish as a month ago. The change is based partly on the good performance of good and choice cattle. They have held relatively firm, while the weaker trend on others had been anticipated in advance and came as no surprise.

It is known that contracting in the producing areas is far below that of a year ago, mainly because bidding prices are \$1 to \$2 below the basis at which producers are holding their cattle. Only a small percentage of the cattle in New Mexico are under contract and in Texas a little business has been done. Trading has been spotted in Wyoming, and the movement of cattle from Texas and Montana into California is far below normal.

Weight is a factor in the grain-fed cattle market and in the steer division

weights below 1,200 pounds are popular with some interests seeking only those from 1,100 pounds down. Even heavy heifers are hard to move, many drawing the line at 900 pounds except when offerings are highly finished.

Outlet for cows seems to be best for the "low-cost" kinds, principally the canner to common offerings. They usually change hands early but often it was a very slow market for good arrivals. Heavy bulls command a premium, yet all weights and grades took a sharp tumble. There has been a marked scarcity of good and choice light vealers.

Prospects for feed this fall and winter are excellent. Hay is plentiful and much below a year ago. The corn crop as of Aug. 1 was estimated at 3,538 million bushels, a near record. In the north central states conditions were favorable during July and the crop is one to two weeks advanced, minimizing the frost hazard.

Going into August common beef steers were over \$5 under similar cattle a year ago, while the decline for the same period was over \$12 on choice and prime at Chicago. This means that the price spread is narrower than a year ago, but recently it has widened considerably from two months ago.

Cattle on feed in 11 Corn Belt states on Aug. 1 stood 24 per cent above a year ago, or an increase of 255,000 head. Indiana and Kansas showed a 5 per cent decrease, while Iowa was up 35 per cent and Nebraska up 31 per cent. There was a gain of 60 per cent in South Dakota. Feeding in the eastern Corn Belt was

(Continued on Page 31)

TEXAS TOUR

STARTING early in August, Huling Means of Silver City, N. M., chairman of the finance committee of the American National Live Stock Association; George W. Evans, president of the New Mexico Cattle Growers Association; Rad Hall, assistant secretary, and F. E. Mollin, secretary of the American National, made a tour of Texas during which six meetings were held and opportunity given for an intimate glimpse of several of the large producing ranches along the way.

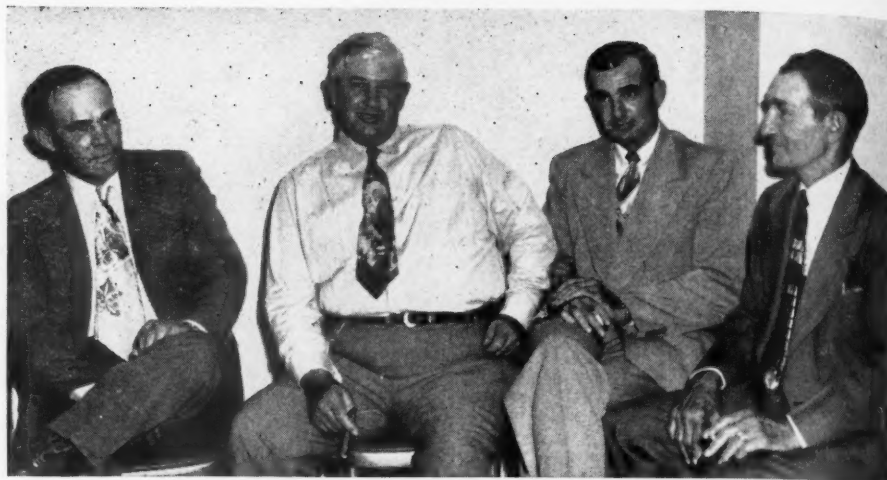
The first meeting was at Amarillo, Texas, where arrangements were in charge of American National Vice-President Jack Mansfield, and Jay Taylor, former president of the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association, the latter presiding at the meeting and latter being host at a garden party at his fine home.

The second meeting was an informal dinner meeting at Wichita Falls, with Bryant Edwards, president of the Texas and Southwestern association, as host. The third meeting was at Fort Worth, with Joe Reynolds presiding and host at a fine dinner party.

The fourth meeting was at Midland, with Roy Parks host at a buffet dinner and also presiding at the meeting which followed. The fifth meeting was at Marfa as guests of the Highland Hereford Association which provided a fine dinner for all. David Combs of Marathon, president of the Highland association, headed the after-dinner meeting.

The final meeting was at San Antonio, with Joe Finley doing the honors. Everywhere, much interest was shown in the work of the American National and quite a number of new members were secured. Many reservations were made for the convention at Miami next January, and it appears that Texas is going to be there in force.

Ranches visited on the trip were those of Jack Mansfield at Vega; Bryant Edwards at Fort Worth; Roy Parks at



A guest from a neighboring state and three men representing the host state on the Texas tour. Left to right: Hayes Mitchell, Marfa; Roy Parks, Midland, and J. E. White, Jr., Marfa—all Texas members of the American National's executive committee, and Huling Means, Silver City, N. M., finance chairman of the National.

Midland; Kenneth Smith at Marfa, and Joe Finley at Encinal.

The visitors were amazed at the tremendous spread of mesquite growth throughout much of the state, and at the efforts that are being made to check its encroachment upon the pastures. Apparently most ranchers are waiting and hoping for some new means of control, as present methods, while effective in many cases, are very expensive.

The representatives of the American

National very much appreciated the reception given them and the opportunity to meet many of their old members as well as other stockmen who have had little opportunity for contact with the work of the national association. We believe such trips are conducive to better cooperation between the national and state organizations and should be held more frequently in the wide expanse of territory served by the American National.—F. E. MOLLIN.

HOLD STEAK FRY

MORE THAN 700 cattlemen from Montana and northern Wyoming gathered at a chuckwagon steak fry on the banks of the Little Big Horn River at Spear Siding, one of the old-time shipping points in Montana on Aug. 14. The steak fry, an annual event sponsored by the Big Horn (Montana) County Stockmen's Association, was revived this year, after being temporarily discontinued during the war.

The Big Horn County association has

for its members stockmen who operate along the Big Horn, Little Big Horn and Tongue rivers in Montana and northern Wyoming—and on the Crow and Cheyenne reservations. This area has long been known for its fine grasslands and was the home of many of the large outfits in the open-range days, among them the Spear, Kendrick, Brewster, Dana and other big spreads. Spear Siding is still one of the great grass cattle shipping points.

Lloyd Cook of Decker, Mont., is president, Bert Kronmiller of Hardin is secretary. Senator W. B. Spear, Jr., of

One Texan, four visitors, in a shot taken during the recent tour of the Lone Star State. Left to right: Rad Hall, Denver, Colo., assistant secretary of American National; G. W. Evans, Magdalena, N. M., head of New Mexico Cattle Growers; Joe Finley, Encinal, Tex., American National executive committeeman; Huling Means, Silver City, N. M., chairman of American National finance committee; F. E. Mollin, executive secretary of American National.



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... on the range ... in the feedlot***



**HERE'S A CATTLE FEED
FOR EVERY NEED:**

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ONLY Ful-O-Pep is fortified with Concentrated Spring Range*... made from tender, young forage plants... carefully grown on rich, fertile soils and scientifically processed to preserve their *high feeding value*.

Like green grass itself, this Vitamin Boost supplies many nutrients needed for herd health... fast calf growth... top bloom and condition. At the same time it stimulates the growth and multiplication of bacteria in the rumen—enabling cattle to *assimilate home-grown grain and roughage efficiently*.

This ingredient—plus quality proteins and organic-source minerals—has made Ful-O-Pep a consistent winner with *profit-minded* cattlemen.

You, too, may find *vitamin-rich* Ful-O-Pep a great feed for profit. Plan to see your local Ful-O-Pep Dealer soon.

And send for **FREE Cattle Book**, too! It contains many valuable chapters on management and nutrition... and gives you the full story on Concentrated Spring Range. Mail your request **NOW** to The Quaker Oats Company, Dept. I-42, Chicago 4, Ill.

*Reg. U. S. Pat. Off.



Three old-time chuckwagon cooks fry sirloins at the Big Horn County (Mont.) Association's feed for which 716 persons lined up.

Kirby, Mont., presided at the 1949 chuckwagon feed. Milton Simpson of Volberg, Mont., president of the Montana Stockgrowers Association, and E. A. Phillips of Hardin, Mont., the secretary, both attended. Simpson reported on his recent trip to Washington,

where he appeared at a congressional committee hearing in opposition to the creation of the Columbia Valley Authority. He pointed out that the setting up of valley authorities would mean the complete domination of all economic activities by federal officialdom wherever

these authorities may be established, and he urged all stockmen to write their congressmen opposing them.

Simpson also urged stockmen to help build larger state and national associations, emphasizing the necessity for group action on many current pressing problems.

E. A. Phillips spoke briefly, as did Lyman Brewster, a member of the Montana State Livestock Commission. Brewster deplored the tendency of stockmen to soft-pedal cattle losses due to disease, which prevented state veterinarians from taking immediate steps to check infectious and contagious diseases before they spread. He urged all stockmen to report any losses from deaths which were caused by diseases that seemed to be at all uncommon.

Other off-the-cuff talks were made by Bert Kronmiller, secretary of the association; N. A. Jacobson, representing the Department of Agriculture, and F. H. ("Neckyoke Jones") Sinclair, public relations advisor of the American National Live Stock Association. Three old-time chuckwagon cooks did the culinary honors. The menu consisted of sirloin steaks, beans, biscuits, canned peaches and coffee.—F. H. SINCLAIR.

TO TALK FREIGHT RATES

Freight rates on livestock in New Mexico will be a top subject of discussion at the third quarterly meeting of

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A PURE BRED BRAHMAN BULL BRED TO A
NATIVE COW WILL PRODUCE CALVES
LIKE THIS AT SIX MONTHS OF AGE

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the New Mexico Cattle Growers Association to be held in Hot Springs, Sept. 9-10, according to G. W. Evans, Magdalena, president. Two experts will talk on the subject: P. W. Cockerill, agricultural economist at State A. & M. College, and H. C. King, service agent for the Interstate Commerce Commission. Other speakers will be John F. Simms, Jr., speaker of the state house of representatives, and Albert K. Mitchell, Albert, chairman of the advisory committee to the secretary of agriculture on eradication of foot-and-mouth in Mexico. President Evans said that members of the New Mexico organization own or control 90 per cent of the land in New Mexico when Indian lands are excluded.

Colvin Heads Wallowans

Verne Colvin of Imnaha, Ore., was elected president of the Wallowa County Stockgrowers Association when it held its 24th annual meeting at Enterprise, Ore., on Aug. 9. He succeeds Ed. Birkmaier. The new vice-president is Oscar Maxwell of Wallowa, and Garnet Best was re-elected secretary-treasurer.

Speakers at the meeting included O. D. Hotchkiss, president of the Oregon Cattlemen's Association; Dr. Fred McKenzie of the State College, and Jerry Sotola of Armour & Co.

Range Viewers Disagree With F. S. on Grass

FORTY-TWO RIDERS—ranchers, Forest Service officials, game officials, businessmen and newspaper men—rode the range on Divide Creek on the Grand Mesa National Forest at the invitation of Claude H. Rees of the First National Bank, Glenwood Springs, Colo., and the Garfield County agricultural planning committee and permittees of the area.

The purpose was to promote understanding of the problems of those grazing livestock in the area and the big question turned out to be whether the good stand of mountain brome and bluegrass there should be utilized or whether numbers should be reduced to permit regrowth of the original bunchgrass. No one could say how long that would take.

All observers but the forest officials agreed that the range was as good as or better than two years ago when a similar ride took place but the Forest Service men held that it should be used in a way to allow return of the bunchgrass, which presumably means that the scheduled reductions of from 30 to 60 per cent will be put into effect next year, although the officials would re-

check this at the end of the grazing season.

After the ride, Mr. Rees called for expressions of opinions. He said emphatically that the permittees should not have to take the announced reductions when their range is on the upgrade and urged the cattlemen to make such appeals as are available to them (they can appeal to higher forest officials and then to the secretary of agriculture).

A brief review of opinions included: J. H. Jackson, Production Credit Association, Rifle, Colo., that there was improvement since two years ago and erosion is not on the increase. C. A. Hoover, farmer, Niles, Kans., that the land had been well taken care of. Red Fenwick of the Denver Post, that weeds were receding and stockmen should have more publicity on their side. Russell Ford, state forester, Colorado Extension Service, that the range was perhaps better than two years ago and "why not act now instead of waiting for nature to take its course" by making improvements.

(Two years ago Regional Forester John W. Spencer, who then thought the range improved, proposed some manage-



Riders observing the range in Divide Creek area on Grand Mesa National Forest. Mountain brome and bluegrass predominate in this section which the Forest Service officials say should instead carry bunchgrass . . . and sharp reductions in permits are scheduled for 1950. (Picture courtesy Record Stockman, Denver.)

ment practices and several reservoirs and an experimental grass plot have been installed and fencing is in progress.)

L. G. Douglas, retired Forest Service official, familiar with the area, said it had been overused in the past but bunchgrass was not necessarily good forage and he was disturbed over the tendency to reduce permits when the range is on the upgrade. He favored more money for improvements.

Other opinions were by Willard Simms, editor of the Record Stockman, Denver, that the Forest Service expressed a negative attitude. "It's like sticking your head in the sand and letting the years alone take care of a condition—something that we haven't done in any other field in agriculture." Lawrence Riordan, wildlife technician, Colorado Game and Fish Department, that the range appeared to be improving. Otto Gebhardt of Denver and former Wyoming rancher, that the range was good, and he complimented the Forest Service on being good neighbors. Humbert Rees, rancher at Rifle, that he now felt the Washington policy is to eliminate livestock from the forests, although he didn't think that was in the minds of the Forest Service men present. C. S. Thornock, supervisor of the Mesa, that there had not been much change on the range in five or six years, urging conservative use. E. D. Sandvig, Forest Service, Denver, that you don't get anywhere by compromising when it

makes a situation worse, that the good season had brought improvement but you couldn't judge the range by the portion seen. Dave Appleton, Producer editor, that reducing and putting ranchers out of business on a good upgrade range to get bunchgrass back is peculiar policy.

Wyoming U. Holds Fifth Annual Forum

EACH YEAR for five years the University of Wyoming has been holding a "national forum" on such subjects as agriculture, labor, industry and business on which speakers of national reputation are heard. Among the many topics discussed this year was the question of "What farm price policy is needed in adjusting to a peace-time economy?"

A. A. Smith, president of the American National Live Stock Association, was on this panel and generally took issue on the administration's Brannan farm plan. The plan with its aim of lower prices will take away the incentive of both farmer and commission man who sells for him to work for fair prices, Mr. Smith said. Whatever the country gets from any of these plans must be paid for in taxes, he declared, adding that he would like to see printed across the pages of every newspaper in the country this line: "The U. S. treas-

ury has no funds except those which it gets from the people in taxes." If everybody realized this, people would not be so ready to seek government aid, Mr. Smith said. He lauded the University of Wyoming for its forum, which is under the chairmanship of Dr. A. F. Vass of the University.

Others on the panel included J. S. Russell, farm editor of Des Moines Register and Tribune; O. B. Jesness, economist at the University of Minnesota; O. V. Wells of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics; Joseph W. Fichter, master of the Ohio State Grange, and E. Howard Hill, president of the Iowa Farm Bureau Federation.

The agricultural conservation program for 1950 will emphasize conservation use of farm land and seeding of grass and legumes will be encouraged to stimulate a shift to livestock production. The program is available to all farmers and assistance is in the form of materials such as fertilizers and seed and use of power machinery and reimbursement payments. The assistance averages about 50 per cent of the out-of-pocket costs, the farmer paying the rest.

FIDDLE-FOOTED

If I stay with the Tumbling E
I'll have no cause to fret;
But—I saw on the A Bar G
A girl I can't forget!

—Howard Haynes

SHERIDAN FEEDER CATTLE SHOW AND SALE

SHERIDAN, WYO., OCT. 10 THRU 15

More than 4,000 head of top quality feeders consigned by leading ranches of this region famous for its good cattle.

PROGRAM

Oct. 10—Showing of 2000 calves.

Oct. 11-12—Selling of calves.

Oct. 13—Showing of more than 2000 yearlings, two-years-old steers and heifers.

Oct. 14-15—Selling of yearlings, two-year-old steers and heifers.

Brannan Plan

(Continued from Page 9)

ly that it proposes to make a campaign issue out of it. Meetings are to be held this fall in various parts of the country, along the lines of the Democratic rally at Des Moines a few weeks ago. Already scheduled are such rallies at San Francisco and New York. Various administration officials will be present, but the Brannan program will be featured and discussed.

Unquestionably, this is the first time in history that a farm program has been proposed which, for the moment at least, seems to have greater support in the cities than it does in the farm belt. When the test vote was taken in the House a few weeks ago, the largest share of the support for the Pace bill, with its trial run of the Brannan farm program included, came from the metropolitan areas.

It would seem to the PRODUCER that this spectacle poses a warning for the country at large. Certainly consumers are not to be blamed for thinking that if subsidies are to be paid without restraint, to practically all classes of producers, and the bait is offered that consumers can likewise get a share—why not take it? Undoubtedly many previously sound thinkers will support some kind of subsidy program next year just because they have had a taste of it in some form.

It is a strange spectacle to have thousands of people clamoring for subsidies in whatever form they are offered and at the same time kicking about high taxes. They go hand in hand. If you want one, you must have the other. Are we going to continue down the easy subsidy route until we have gone so far that there is no turning back, building up government deficits, keeping up government taxes and thus an unsound economy? The next two or three years will tell the story.

Planned Tours

PLANNED tours are becoming increasingly popular and attracting consistently large crowds—and with good reason.

True, the opportunity thus offered for pleasant meetings with old and new friends and an enjoyable view of the countryside draws interest, but the advantages go deeper than that.

These tours, with their visits to various plants related to the livestock ranching business, get their attendance from outside the industry as well as within it. There you have the basis of good public relations. It's a fine chance to get our story across again, and it makes for a good feeling among the stockmen themselves and those who are invited to join with them.

Main purpose of the tours is to show details of ranch operations, ranges, livestock and perhaps wildlife. Every phase of cattle raising is demonstrated at the

Greenfield Hereford Ranch

A. H. KARPE, Owner

Announces its

SECOND ANNUAL SALE

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 7

50 Top Head Sell!

10 Miles South
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When it Comes to RANGE CAKE

Lincoy wafers are a combination of Linseed, Cottonseed and Soybean meals. 40% Protein made in firm pellets. Ideally suited for range feeding. For prices, write, wire or phone

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source, with authority, to businessmen, bankers, newsmen, the ranchers themselves.

In line with the time-honored statement that seeing is believing, there is no better way for any of us to learn how our colleagues carry on their work and why they are successful in it than to view the methods and results personally.

The tours usually last from one to four days. With a livestock association, it is necessary only to appoint a committee to make arrangements, select the area to be traveled and topics for study, and the route, and then give the matter some publicity. Any group making such plans will get a gratifying response and

good cooperation from all sides.

It's a worthwhile project, and one of the more pleasant ones in which the stockman and rancher can take part. Through it he can engage in the invaluable exchange of ideas without which progress is greatly slowed down, to say the least. Twenty cattlemen working independently of each other in isolated districts over a long period of time may arrive at twenty desirable systems of building up their ranches and the quality of their animals, and they may learn much through the trial-and-error process about range management, etc., but by getting together and trading information, unquestionably those twenty men could greatly hasten

progress and development. Briefly, the cattle tour in all its aspects is important, to the livestock man and to his business.

Meat Cost and Consumer Income

RECENTLY, Samuel Slotkin, chairman of the board of High Grade Food Corporation, New York, resigned as a member of the board of directors of the American Meat Institute, complaining as to the lack of forward-looking policies on the part of the industry generally. His letter seemed to infer that meat prices were too high and that sufficient consideration was not being given to the consumer.

Just how bad off IS the consumer these days? In the 10-year pre-war period, 1930-39, the average disposable personal income per person was \$482. In 1948 it was \$1,307—an increase of 171.2 per cent. In the 10-year period mentioned, the average retail value of meat consumed per person was \$27.80. In 1948 it was \$79.41—an increase of 185.6 per cent.

But the above figures do not tell the whole story. In the 10-year period mentioned, the per capita consumption of meat was 129.8 pounds. In 1948 it was 146.1 pounds. Had the per capita consumption in 1948 been the same as in the 10-year period shown, the retail value of meat consumed per person would have been \$70.55—or an increase over the 10-year period of 153.7 per cent, compared with an increase in disposable income of 171.2 per cent.

It is quite natural that as income increases the consumption of meat likewise increases . . . And still the consumer has more money left for the purchase of other commodities. The point is that income has more than kept pace with the cost of meat, which is a healthy situation.

CANADIAN CATTLE EXPORTS EXPECTED TO BE 200,000

The USDA says a Dec. 1, 1948, estimate of Canadian cattle numbers indicates that the large volume of exports and of domestic meat consumption have cut sharply into cattle reserves. According to the summary, based on Canadian sources of information, cattle numbers were 7.7 per cent below a year earlier. It is deemed unlikely that Canada will export more than 100,000 head in the last half of this year to the United States, to bring the total for 1949 to around 200,000 head.

RAILS CUT FEEDING RATES

American National Traffic Manager Chas. E. Blaine advises that the traffic committee of the Southwestern Freight Lines has approved a reduction in feeding in transit charges to \$7 per car instead of the present 9½ to 15 cents per 100 pounds or approximately \$33 per car. Other rails are considering similar action.

AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER

IT'S OCTOBER 26TH



N Bar Feeder calves being loaded at the ranch for shipment to Corn Belt feeders.

3rd Annual N BAR RANCH SALE

We believe our third annual sale offering of feeder calves, replacement heifer calves yearling and registered bull calves to be our best. Won't you be our guest at the ranch on sale day? Grass Range is easily reached from Lewistown or Billings.

520 ANGUS SELL

250 Steer Calves — 150 Heifer Calves
40 Reg. Bull Calves — 30 Yearling Steers
50 Commercial Cows

SALE STARTS AT 12 NOON AT THE RANCH

It's An Angus Week! N Bar Sale—Oct. 26.
Rocky Mountain Feeder Sale in Billings—
Oct. 27. Angus Classic in Billings—Oct.
28-29.

N BAR RANCH

G. R. MILBURN, Mgr.
Grass Range, Montana

Bills IN Congress

If you would like to read any of the following bills, write to the American National Live Stock Association, 515 Cooper Bldg., Denver 2, Colo. We'd like your comments on legislation.

- H. R. 5176—INTERIOR REORGANIZATION. Changing law to permit President and Secretary of Interior to put into operation the Hoover Commission recommendations for reorganizing that department. By Hoffman (Mich.)—to Com. on Public Lands.
- H. R. 5179—AGRICULTURE REORGANIZATION. Changing the law to apply the Hoover Commission recommendations to that department. By Hoffman (Mich.)—to Com. on Agri.
- H. R. 5345—FARM PRICES. Providing direct production payments for not more than three agricultural commodities. By Pace (Ga.)—to Com. on Agri.
- H. R. 5349—AGRICULTURE. To indefinitely extend the period in which Title I of the Agricultural Act of 1948 shall be applicable. By Stefan (Nebr.)—to Com. on Agri.
- S. 2266—FARM LOANS. Amending Federal Farm Loan Act with respect to promissory notes secured by deposit or pledge of consolidated farm loan bonds. By Thomas (Okla.)—to Com. of Agri. and For.
- S. 2283—FARM INCOME AND PRICES. Re-enacting and amending marketing agreement and order provisions of the Agricultural Adjustment Acts of 1933 and 1937; to stabilize farm income and prices and to establish certain minimum standards of quality, maturity and grading and inspection requirements for agricultural commodities. By Thomas (Okla.)—to Com. on Agri. and For.
- S. 2299—Amending Revenue Code relating to date of filing estimated tax returns by farmers. By McCarran (Nev.)—to Com. on Judiciary.

Comments on Current Proposals

By CHESTER GRAY

WHATEVER there might be, good or bad, in pending measures on the agricultural front at Washington will prove to be good or bad if enacted in "partial payments"—a legislative toe in the congressional door, so to speak.

When it became evident that the plan submitted by Secretary Brannan would not be approved by this session of Congress, immediately it was proposed to select just a few commodities as guinea pigs for trial runs. All who work at Washington, either as members of Congress or with trade associations, recognize this device as being one of the oldest and most frequently used of them all when a proposal in total cannot be enacted.

A close count of the deliberations on the Brannan plan perhaps would disclose that more time and energy have been devoted to getting, or not allowing, this device to work than to enacting or opposing the entire plan as submitted by the secretary. As in the cases of many other measures that have been enacted at first in small part and later grow by additions and amendments to their original proportions, so it reasonably could be concluded that the Brannan plan if put into operation on four or five farm commodities would in not too distant a future be operating in all its intended coverages.

Not What Farmers Want

This plan, whether on one or all farm commodities, is not what the farmer is

asking for. He does not want prices on his crops and productions to hit bottom, and then get from the federal treasury the remainder of what he should have secured in the market place. The proposal seems to the average Missouri farmer in my neighborhood as being much more a consumer proposition than one to aid the farmers.

There is considerable anxiety on the part of farmers who have been heard discussing the Brannan plan in its first entirety, or applied to only a few crops, in regard to the penalties that might accrue to the fellow who inadvertently or otherwise failed to comply with the many necessary regulations which undoubtedly would accompany the operation of the plan. What, for instance, would be the result in getting loans on stored grain if a farmer wanted to cash in on his crop at maturity so that he could pay up on some of his debts, if he had not "toed the mark?" Furthermore, what about the support price being paid to the fellow by local buyers, either cooperative or old line, if he had failed in some way to live up to acreage limitations or others of the many requirements that inevitably would grow up around the operation of the proposal?

A Dire Possibility

Corporations, it is well known, have become afraid to violate or even to evidence dissatisfaction with governmental orders. We seem to be at the beginning of a period in which a similar situation



I got a letter this week from Bob, one of my Colorado rancher pals, and I'm sure he won't mind if I let you read part of it over my shoulder, because it concerns every rancher in the business:

Here's what Bob says: "Just by way of information one of my friends lost 22 almost finished yearlings in one feed lot last week from blackleg —or maybe it was edema. Just failed to vaccinate; thought the other fellow had done it. He'll do it himself next time. About a \$3,500.00 loss that could have been prevented for a couple of bucks." \$\$\$

I think you ranchers all know just how Bob's friend must have felt. A loss like that can sure knock the starch out of a year's ranching profits.

I'd like to make a strong point right now about combined blackleg and malignant edema vaccine—Cutter's Blacklegol "S".* Because both of these killers thrive under the same conditions, kill in the same manner, and defy anybody to tell which one with the Toni did the dirty work, I think it's playing at sucker's odds to take a chance when you're got so little to win. It's not a fair shake for you to gamble, either, that some bargain-basement vaccine is going to do a job for you. Complete protection is what you need for your cattle, and Cutter's Blacklegol "S" fortified with Alhydrox** is your insurance against both blackleg and malignant edema losses.

Sure, Cutter's got plain bacterin and alum-precipitated vaccines but I don't mind throwing rocks at 'em on how superior Blacklegol "S" is by comparison.

Insist on Blacklegol "S" — it's cheaper on the long haul.

See you next month...

Jim

*Cutter Trade Name

**Aluminum Hydroxide adsorbed

CUTTER LABORATORIES
Berkeley 10, California

is accumulating upon the individual farmer. It could develop that the stockman or farmer would be told to do as he is ordered, or else! The government has many retaliatory procedures that can be made to apply against an individual as well as against a corporation. In all this governmental coercion—

if it should develop—the army of enforcement personnel, usually referred to as being bureaucrats, multiplying with every session of Congress, it seems, even though deficit financing is the too frequent method of running the government at Washington, surely would be brought into play in seeing to it that each and every farmer lined up as told. It is not conclusive to say that the Brannan plan would cost no more and require no greater number of federal representatives to operate it than other plans. Even under the present plan, as well as the one which now seems likely to go into operation in 1950, having been approved by the former session of Congress, nothing less than the word “army” adequately can describe the numbers required to keep account of the ramifications into which farm relief has expanded, with its several agencies in every county working at the jobs legislatively assigned them.

More and more as deliberations proceed on the entire front of farm relief it appears that a farmer or stockman or dairyman if cooperating at all is being corralled into cooperating all the way, in various of the federal agencies having to do with farm living and prosperity. “You can’t get this unless you do that,” seems the all-inclusive command. There are exceptions to this situation, and some variations, but the trend seems to be growing into an enforced practice. That is the direction England has gone, economically and governmentally, and the United States will be well advised not to follow this trail too far.

of deficit financing at Washington.

Humor is added to recent crop insurance developments in Congress, if the instance is not too serious for humor, by “cancelling” the 1948 deficit in the crop insurance program accumulated, by charging it to the federal treasury. How pleasant it would be, for a while, if every stockman and farmer could operate in this manner!

And isn’t that about the essence of the Brannan plan? Let Uncle Sam pay farm producers what they should have received at the market price?

So the grist grinds on in Congress relative to farm legislation. Some is good, mighty good. Some is tolerable, and we can afford to wait for its fulfillment. Some is bad and needs get no further along the legislative path than the mere introduction.

Mr. Gray, Nevada, Mo., is former Washington representative of the American Farm Bureau.

Thorp Named for 'National' Field

Russell Thorp of Cheyenne, Wyo., for 19 years secretary of the Wyoming Stock Growers Association, has been named a field representative of the American National Live Stock Association.



Russell Thorp

has been at the conventions of the American National. He is an old-time member of the National, having joined years ago when he was an extensive operator in Montana.

Mr. Smith said that the new representative's job would consist of carrying the National's program into new fields and coordinating national organization activities with those of state associations. Mr. Smith asked members of the National to assist Mr. Thorp “in bringing back to the officers of the association the thinking of the cattlemen on current problems and in doing everything possible for the betterment of the industry at large.”

New Mississippi Secretary

Justin H. Doak of Norborne, Mo., is the new secretary of the Mississippi Cattle Association, succeeding Paul F. Newell, extension animal husbandry official who has worked part time as

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Raiding the Treasury

Crop insurance can be made into a desirable aid to farmers, particularly those who produce grains. Some of the original peculiarities of the early attempts on this project are being eliminated—and the costs of the experience in that free and easy way that have come to be habitual at Washington are charged to the federal treasury. It does not require much thinking backwards to remember that at first crop insurance was designed to guarantee profit on a field of grain. Unlike other insurance methods which do nothing more than pay damages at the dates of the damages, crop insurance was in its early stages designed to pay a wheat farmer, for instance, the average price on the average yield in his area, even though the crop might have been ruined soon after it came through the ground after drilling.

Later wisdom, at least in part, corrected this raid on the federal treasury, by paying the wheat farmer only what he had expended as costs at the date of damage. When crop insurance goes all the way to getting on similar actuarial bases that are observed in other insurance operations, and gets out of the region of economics which tries to guarantee profit on an assumed crop maturity, it will be no longer that threat, among many others, to the continuance

secretary of the association. Mr. Doak will put in full time on the job and will help in coping with the cattle theft problem that is troublesome in Mississippi.

Oregon Association Backs Ranch Tour

One hundred and twenty-five cattlemen, sportsmen, Forest Service and game department people and businessmen were guests of the Oregon Cattlemen's Association tour through Baker, Union and Wallowa counties Aug. 6-7. Purpose of the tour was to show ranches, ranges, reseeding and livestock as handled in the section. A breakfast by the Baker County Chamber of Commerce started the tour off and then the Baker County Livestock Association led the way from Baker on a 350-mile ride.

First stop was on the public domain to inspect a section where sagebrush had been burned and a good grass stand started. Irrigated pastures carrying three cows to the acre were seen in the Lower Powder River Valley.

Next stop was in the national forest where timber was being logged off (reseeding is a good erosion preventive in these skidways).

Stops were made after lunch given by the Baker association in the Keating area where deer concentrate in the winter and at the Eastern Oregon Experiment Station at Union where the Union County Stockgrowers Association served dinner.

Wallowa County Stockgrowers were joint hosts on the second day in a tour of the irrigated valley out of Enterprise and eastward into the dry rolling hills and on the Walter Brennan ranch the party saw the reservoirs that distributed the cattle over the bunchgrass hills.

Few places in America where cattle graze are as rough as the breaks of the Snake River. The tour wound its way up the rugged Imnaha River Canyon to the top of Hat Point to look 5,500 feet into the Hell's Canyon country of the Snake River.

Last stop was at the Earle Miller ranch, near Joseph, to see registered Herefords.

QUESTIONS FORECAST

Executive Secretary F. E. Mollin of the American National addressed the following letter to Secretary of Agriculture Charles F. Brannan on Aug. 26:

Dear Mr. Secretary:

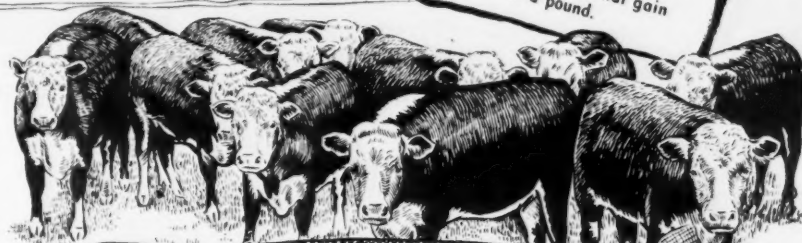
"From time to time, particularly in the past year or so, we have noticed releases put out by the Department of Agriculture which have made predictions as to the course of the livestock market. In practically every case recently these predictions have been for lower prices and the hope has been held out to consumers that meat prices would be reduced accordingly.

"I wonder if it is a proper function

\$18.00
RETURN FROM
\$5.00

The Earning Power of
Range Grass Depends
on Combining it with
Proper Amounts of
COTTONSEED CAKE

An Experiment Station found that \$5 Worth of Cake Made \$18 Worth of Beef When Steers Sold at \$24 per 100 pounds. Cattle on pasture that received 1 1/2 pounds of Cottonseed Cake daily per head for 88 days gained 152 pounds per head during the period. Each pound of Cake fed resulted in an additional gain of approximately 3/4 of a pound.



During late summer and early fall, most farm pastures and ranges begin to cure out or become "burned," the protein content of grasses frequently dropping 50 per cent or more as they mature.

Cottonseed Meal, Cake, Pellets or Cubes are needed to make up the protein deficiency; avoid losses and condition cattle for the winter.

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of your Department to be making such short-range predictions. We certainly do not think it is a service to the industry and we question whether it has been a service to the consumers. There has been a considerable variation between the events as they have come to pass and the predictions which your Department has made regarding them and under the circumstances would it not be bet-

ter for all concerned if more reliance were placed upon the supplying of statistical information without prophesying the effect anticipated upon the market except as to long-time trends. Supply and demand are both rather unpredictable in this country and the prices that result from the changing supply and demand situation are, of course, just as hard to foretell."

PLENTYWOOD TALES

By GEORGE B. GROSS and DAVID I. DAY

TRULY one of the most interesting old-timers in the West today is Bob Richardson, born in 1876 in eastern Canada near the Bay of Fundy and now living on his ranch near Antelope, Mont.

The damp climate of his native region was regarded as injurious to his mother's health, so one day the elder Richardsons loaded their ten children, including Bob, into a wagon and started for Pierre, S. D. There, relatives had tentatively selected a farm for them and upon arrival the land was purchased. It was just a short drive from present-day Custer, in the Black Hills country.

"There I grew up," remarked Mr. Richardson recently. "This 109-acre place was sufficient for my parents to rear their large family without aid from any direction. As I look back, I realize it took a lot of courage to attempt to create a home in a new land such as South Dakota was, back in those days."

Everything was strictly on the western pioneer level. In the 1880's, Mr. Richardson recalls many Indian scares. The settlers built a sturdy stockade in Custer where they could take their families in case of Indian outbreaks. They often congregated there in winter time when Indian attacks were most likely.

When Bob was 21 he felt the urge to strike out for himself. An older brother was working for the Y-T outfit that ran quite a lot of cattle in the Havre country. So there Bob went. He found his brother and two or three other cowpunchers were accumulating a few cattle of their own. After working a year for this outfit, Bob was later engaged to work for his brother and partner who had moved over into wilder country in northwestern North Dakota. Settlers were gradually crowding in around Havre and, as Mr. Richardson aptly pointed out, settlers and free-range cattle ranching just won't mix.

Around 1898-1900, Mr. Richardson remembers North Dakota near the present town of Buford as being a sort of free-range paradise—fine grass and water. Everything was nice—but settlers started drifting in there, too. About this time he went to Chicago on a beef train and he recalls vividly his impression of the big city on Lake Michigan.

Another move took them to the tall grass along Big Muddy, where the cattle did fine. . . . No settlers much there for quite a spell. There were no towns—no Antelope, no Plentywood—just grass and wide country. . . . Not many people of any description. George Bolster, founder of Plentywood, hit there about that same time. George Ator, George McCoy, Frank Loutzenheiser—and, of course, the noted "Hominy" Thompson was there, over on Whitetail Creek. Some sheep ranching had started, some horse ranching, but there was plenty of grass for

them and everybody's cattle—and to spare.

Three things disturbed Bob Richardson's peace of mind when he was a young fellow in the Plentywood country. There were some bad, bold outlaws—who got blamed for quite a lot of devilment they didn't do; there were prairie fires, and there were mosquitoes—the last-named being maybe the worst of all.

Jones and Nelson were the outlaws he remembers best. He remembers a prairie fire that swept up the hay mows all the way to the Canadian line. Folks blamed sparks from a Great Northern locomotive. To keep the peace, the railroad scattered \$16,000 around to help out. One good thing the fire did was to destroy all the mosquitoes.

Another thing that disturbed the cowboy who has ranched there for a lifetime was loneliness. Bob's loneliness was cured when he married Miss Elsie Courtney in 1912. The couple have two sons and a daughter, all grown and married.

Mr. Richardson has seen cattle ranching go through a variety of ups and downs in the past 70 years. His life has had its share of adventure. The West has changed but it is still the land of opportunity. Cattle ranching is still a vocation that appeals to the imagination of vigorous Americans of all ages.

One question is invariably asked of all old-timers of the ranch country: "How about old-time blizzards?" "Oh, certainly," admits Mr. Richardson, "there were blizzards, and bad ones. One of the bad ones was in the winter of 1906-07. It was just naturally a cold winter. But we made it through without airborne hay or other government assistance. I don't seem to recall suf-

fering too much from blizzards. Maybe I was just lucky."

* * *

In the early days of Montana homesteading, Robert Pierce, midwestern school teacher, heard that some fellows were about to jump his claim and he rode 45 miles from the railroad to protect his property, two good rifles fastened to his saddle.

A blizzard caught him in deep snow about 15 miles from his destination. Only persistence and a sturdy constitution enabled him to reach a deserted cabin. After the storm was over, the rifles stood him in good stead. He saw no claim jumpers but there were plenty of marooned rabbits and other game. The rifles enabled him to live on fresh saltless meat until he found more variable food.

"That lonely night in the cabin is recorded as one in which the temperature dropped to 45 below," says Mr. Pierce. "I had a little fire but I could scarcely feel it. That blizzard destroyed wild creatures of many sorts and a few people, I hear, died in the path of the storm."

Mr. Pierce became a traveling salesman years ago out of Chicago but is now retired on pension. He still thinks the northern Montana country, north of the Missouri, is the most beautiful country in the world.

* * *

On June 22, Mrs. Caroline Collins wrote from Seattle of her memories of the Plentywood country. She knew both Medicine Lake and Plentywood when they were in their original locations before being moved over to the railroad. She recalls early sheep and cattle people and the fact that sometimes they didn't like each other. In 1887, she recalls the starvation of cattle by the hundreds of thousands—a big blizzard, deep snow, no feed. This spring with her daughter



Among the first signs of a new era was the stagecoach which ran the 48 miles, Plentywood to Culbertson and return. The first driver was Bill Ator, back around the first years of this century. Here is a picture of the Bill Ator ranch and family, just east of Plentywood.

AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER

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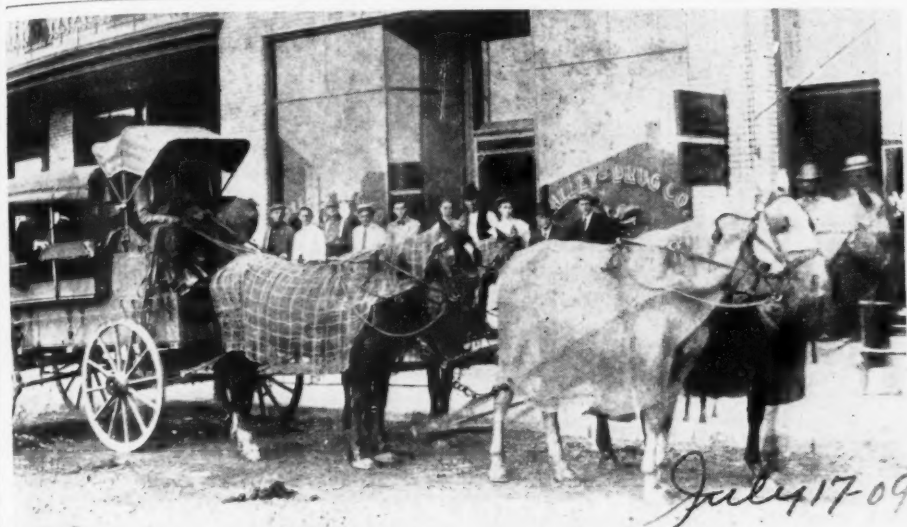
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she drove over much of Montana from Glacier National Park to the Black Hills. "I have seen lots of cattle graze

that region," she wrote. "Lots of memories came to life as I drove over U. S. 2." Mrs. Collins will be 88 in August.



After 1908, John Sandvig had the government mail contract and drove the Culbertson-Plentywood Stage Coach. Here is a picture of the coach set-up in the summer of 1909. Stage driving was rough going at times in those days. On one trip, Mr. Sandvig turned his coach over seven times.

NEW BEEF GRADE

The USDA has announced a proposal to divide the present Commercial grade for steer, heifer and cow beef into two new grades, one of which would retain the name Commercial. At present this grade of beef is produced from animals varying in age from the youngest classed as beef to the oldest coming to market. Under the new proposal, beef from the older carcasses, less tender and having a stronger beef flavor, will continue to be stamped Commercial, while beef from the younger ones will carry a new grade name, tentatively suggested as Regular. It is believed that such a change will now enable consumers to select more easily the kind of beef they want, from among four grades (Choice, Good, Commercial are the other three).

Another recent innovation is the addition of the words "veal" and "calf" to the familiar purple grade stamped on meat from young animals that has been federally graded. Veal comes usually from young animals less than 14 weeks old, fed largely on milk or milk products. The flesh is usually fine textured, delicately flavored, and light pinkish brown in color. On the other hand, meat marked Calf is from animals that have passed the veal stage but have not yet taken on beef characteristics. The meat is firmer and coarser in texture, a deeper red in color, it has more fat.

* * *

THE USDA is proposing a change in federal meat grading provisions which would require minimum inspection for federally graded meats not produced under federal inspection. The proposed regulation would involve pre- and post-slaughter inspection by qualified veterinarians and the maintenance of cer-

tain sanitary standards.

* * *

ALL references to color of fat as a grade factor for carcass beef (steer, heifer and cow) would be deleted under a recently proposed USDA amendment of the specifications for official U. S. standards on grades of such beef.

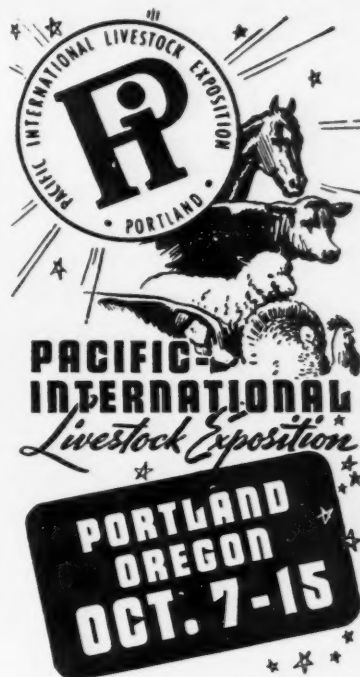
A Government Move In the Right Direction

The following telegram was dispatched on Aug. 26 by President A. A. Smith to leading senators and congressmen from the territory of the American National Live Stock Association:

"We have watched with interest the first move toward economy in government as a result of the passage by Congress of the reorganization plan under which Defense Secretary Johnson is now proceeding. We commend Congress for this constructive act and urge you to stand firm and proceed along this same line in dealing with any other over-manned or duplicating departments of the government. If we must have make-work projects if unemployment rolls mount too high, they should be treated as such, but the ordinary functions of government should be handled on a sound and economic basis."

BOUNDARY FENCE OK'd

The border fence bill last month passed the Senate. S. 1115 by Clinton P. Anderson of New Mexico provides for construction of the "western land boundary fence project" from El Paso to the California coast, at a maximum cost of \$3,500,000. The measure is now before the House committee, where it will probably die.



The most diversified stock show in America—eleven acres of indoor exhibits and displays of pure bred livestock. Plan now to exhibit. Entries close September 20th. Send for free premium list. Pacific International Livestock Exposition, North Portland, Ore.



Serving the cattlemen of the Northwest. During 1948, I sold a total of \$4,902,355.00 worth of registered and top-quality breeding and fat stock for leading breeders and associations in the eight Northwest states.

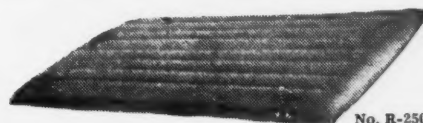
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READ THE ADS IN THE PRODUCER . . .
THEY'RE NEWS, TOO.



LADIES' CHOICE



Through a RANCH HOUSE WINDOW

Though I suppose it varies somewhat in different parts of the cow-country, fall is the time for gathering and selling stock; September happens to be the month for it around here. It's the time when the last two or three years of hard work are converted into cash—whether a profitable amount of cash or not depending on a lot of factors over which our husbands have had, actually, little control!

Modern conditions complicate, rather than simplify, a way of life that must depend upon a full cycle of animal maturing, birth, growth and death. This fall's profits began three full springs ago, when the bulls were turned into the herd. The money to send the teen-agers to college lies still unborn within the swollen flanks of the cows that will crowd around this winter's feeding-racks.

Ours is a way of life that can't be hurried, nor short-cut, nor (thank goodness!) easily regimentized. The stockman has to out-guess, on a basis of long-range prophecy, Nature, the weather, world conditions and a whole maze of national and international complications. And he'd better guess right or he won't be a stockman for long.

Perhaps that's why he remains one of the few "rugged individualists" in an increasingly "spoon-fed" economy. Time was when being an individualist was an honorable estate, but it's growing to be almost a term of opprobrium nowadays.

The search for "security" for ourselves and our loved ones is a natural enough urge. But when a survey of young men in college shows only 4 per cent of them willing to take the risk of "going into business for themselves"

and the rest of them hoping for "a position with security," it seems to me that we are in danger of losing all that made America what it is.

If our young people are willing to settle for "security" rather than to struggle for "success," the price of that security is likely to be high. It is likely, in fact, to be the price of our individual freedom.

It's a fact that most amateur economists—and a good many professional ones, too—don't seem to take into account that all the paternalistic functions of government must be paid for by ourselves . . . not only in the cold, hard cash of increased taxation, but also—too often—by the surrender of some of our rights as free individuals.

I don't know how many of you have read George Orwell's book, "Nineteen Eighty-Four." You won't like it, and it's probably overdrawn—but the only way to be sure "it can't happen here" is read it, and think about it, and realize how easily, step by step, it might happen to any nation.

I suppose that an incident that happened in this neighborhood recently started me thinking along this line. Since we live within the limits of a national forest (a "chaparral forest," mostly) we are more affected by the autocratic powers of government than most free Americans. Those of you who live in the forests know what I mean.

I don't know if I've ever told you about our "rebel" cattleman, whose grazing permit on forest land has been reduced from 60 head to 55 and by now has dwindled to SIXTEEN head—on 1,500 acres of pretty good mountain range! It's quite a story; I'll tell you sometime.

But this incident I mentioned: One of the neighbors borrowed a truck to haul in some hay. In driving over the "dead furrow" at the end of his field, he apparently broke off the muffler of the borrowed truck; at least, that's what the Forest Service officials decided had happened. At any rate, it started a little fire in the dead grass at the end of the field—about half an acre on the man's own land, behind his own barn, was all that burned.

There haven't been many fires this year; perhaps that is why so much equipment was turned out for this little fire—so much, in fact, that it is said that much of it got there long after the blaze was out. At any rate, the neighbor admitted that the "fault" was his, if so accidental a thing as a broken muffler (and the one-in-a-hundred chance of that starting a fire!) could

be considered a "fault," and he at once agreed to pay whatever "suppression" costs there were. Nonetheless, he has been cited into court. I'll give you a report, next month, on how it turns out.

There's a faint and troubling "smell" about it all. Will every householder in this forest be called into court if, for instance, he accidentally drops a match and burns a little patch of grass in his own back yard? Or only if he's a rancher.

"Send not to ask for whom the bell tolls; it tolls for thee." Insofar as any man's freedom is diminished, or his rights invaded, so are ours all! If any man becomes the victim of discrimination or persecution, so do we all!

At Home on the Range

As I've said before, I'm sorry we did not have more entries in the meat recipe contest. Several of those we did have were pretty outstanding, though, and I'm glad I don't have to try to decide which one gets the \$5 first prize. I'm leaving that up to you, the readers. Please take a minute to clip the coupon at the end of this article, fill it in and mail to the PRODUCER as soon as possible so we will be able to give you the name of the winner in the October issue. And may the best recipe win!

I hope you've clipped all the recipes, but in case you haven't, here is a list of them:

BEEF AND BISCUIT PUT-TOGETHER—By Mrs. Ethel Hulslander, Kremmling, Colo.

"SIRLOIN TIPS"—By Mrs. E. C. Stevenson, Moorcroft, Wyo.

DANISH CABBAGE ROLLS—By Edna McQueston, Berkeley, Calif.

DEEP DISH HAMBURGER PIE—By Mrs. Wesley Street, Summerville, Ore.

My vote for winning entry in the PRODUCER'S Meat Recipe Contest goes to

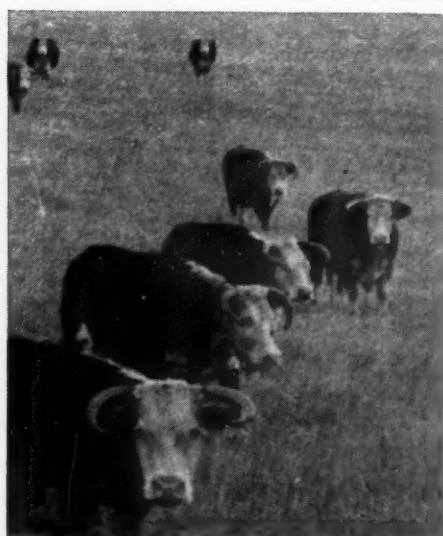
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(Name of Recipe).....

It's probably true, as one of our correspondents suggested, that, while it takes ingenuity to feed the menfolks beans day after day, no special cookery art is necessary to get them to eat old-fashioned roasts or a juicy T-bone steak.

Still, a little originality pays dividends even with meat dishes—it's a sure way to make a husband say, "My

AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER



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wife is a wonderful cook!" The end result is what counts with them. There's no use explaining that the really "wonderful cook" is the one who can concoct an acceptable meal out of a piece of jerky, some salt, pepper, flour, beans—and a handful of dried apples.

Here is a "spread" for a broiled or pan-broiled steak that makes the best steak better. Do try it sometime!

STEAK SAUCE, BERCY

Beat a half-cup of butter to a cream, add one clove of garlic, mashed, two or three finely chopped green onions (or 2 tablespoons of minced onion), two teaspoons of chopped chives (optional) and two teaspoons of finely chopped parsley.

Broil the steak or pan-broil it, unseasoned, in an almost dry pan (I use only a slight oiling, to keep the steak from sticking). Cook quickly, on a very hot fire, turning only once.

As soon as it is done to the stage you prefer, remove from heat, salt and pepper, spread with the sauce and return to the broiler or to the oven for just one minute, to let the seasoning soak into the meat.

* * *

I've never cured my own meat. And, what with deep freezers and so on, probably many of you do not do so. But there must be many who still do. It's too early for butchering here at the Ranch House, so I can't try this recipe—though I think I shall do it later this fall, if only with one joint. In the meantime, I'll have to pass it on, untried. It came from a reader who signed herself simply as "A Texas Woman" and she says that it succeeds when all other methods she has tried fail, and that its biggest advantage is that the meat is not too salty.

For every joint she uses one pint of table salt, one tablespoon of red pepper, one tablespoon of black pepper and one tablespoon of sugar. Mix, and apply while the animal heat is still in the meat. Rub in well, especially where there is no skin. Wrap closely in heavy paper and tie, in order, as she says, "to keep the cure on and the flies off." Slip each piece into a flour sack, with the hock end down. Tie and hang up at once, hanging each piece in approximately the same position as when the animal was alive.

As I said, I can't try this recipe yet. But it sounds interesting, and I shall do so later on.

* * *

A fall chill is in the air this evening. A small, cool wind fingers the window-blind, and I'm sure that the first yellow tinge will be on the leaves of the old maple tree tomorrow.

Cooking is more interesting in the fall than in the blazing days of summer. And so . . . Good Eating . . . and Good Evening to you all.

D. M.

COMMITTEE LISTS SUBJECTS FOR STUDY

THE Livestock Advisory Committee, which from time to time makes recommendations under the Research and Marketing Act, recently listed diseases, parasites, insects and range as top matters that should be studied under the act.

Emphasis should be directed toward "X" disease, brucellosis and shipping fever; horse flies, deer flies and screw worm flies, and stomach worms and liver flukes.

Range improvement is listed as offering opportunity for effective research and coordination of effort by research and regulatory agencies. There is serious need for research on control of undesirable weeds, shrubs and brush; also on water conservation, erosion and rodent control, the development of suitable grasses and methods of reseeding, and the maintenance of desirable relationships between wild and domesticated animal populations.

Asks Range Research

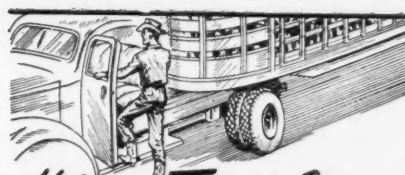
The genetic improvement of livestock needs further support toward development of strains or breeds or crosses that are better suited to conditions existing in different livestock producing areas.

There should be further investigation and development of feeding practices which maintain continuous growth in animals as compared with practices which produce intermittent growth. It is thought that continuous growth is more efficient in producing meat with especially desirable market characteristics.

Wheat pasture poisoning of livestock, primarily sheep and cattle, is found especially in the Southwest and needs further investigation.

The committee also listed the need for studies on utilization and marketing of various products.

Members of the Livestock committee are: Chairman, Frank B. Boice, Sonoita, Ariz., a former president of the American National; Norris K. Carnes, Central Co-operative Association, South St. Paul, Minn.; C. B. Denman, Farmington, Mo.; Wesley Hardenburgh, American Meat Institute; George H. Hart, College of Agriculture, Davis, Calif.; E. Howard Hill, Iowa Farm Bureau Federation; Arthur B. Maurer, Maurer-Neuer Corporation, Kansas City, Kan.; C. E. Weymouth, Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Ass'n.; P. E. Williams, cattle feeder, Davenport, Fla.; G. N. Winder, National Wool Growers Association, Craig, Colo.; William H. Yungelas, American Pork Producers Association, Webster City, Iowa. Dr. H. C. Trelogan, assistant to the RMA administrator, is executive secretary of the committee.



Helping Feed the Nation

Hauling livestock to market is a responsibility NOT to be taken lightly. By night—and by day—men are guiding huge truck-trailers to market, carefully and seriously—men of driving skill, reliability, and integrity. It's no wonder these men wear cowboy boots—Nocona Boots—for good footing, for comfort, for economy. Nocona Boots help get the job done.



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It has been proven our native and BRAHMAN stock do excellently in all areas.

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**THE LADIES ARE REALLY GOING TO BE ON HAND AT MIAMI
ARE YOU PLANNING TO BE AMONG THOSE PRESENT?**

September, 1949

SALES

Oct.
24

28th GREELEY BULL SALE

In the brand new sale barn in Island Grove Park

The sale where over 800 buyers have repeatedly bought their herd improvers.

NORTHERN COLORADO HEREFORD BREEDERS

October
10-15
Wyoming

Sheridan FEEDER CATTLE Show & Sale

SHERIDAN, WYO.

4,000 top quality feeders—calves and yearlings—consigned by leading ranchers in the region.

Oct. 10—Calf show; Oct. 11-12—Calf sale;
Oct. 13—Yearling show; Oct. 14-15—Yearling sale.

Oct.
20-21
Wyoming

SOUTHERN WYOMING HEREFORD BREEDERS ASSOCIATION SHOW AND SALE

LARAMIE — OCTOBER 20-21, 1949

87 TOP QUALITY BULLS
54 to be sold individually;
33 in 11 pens of 3 uniform
range bulls.

Consigned
by 17
Breeders

Tony Fellhauer, Sec.-Treas.
Agricultural Extension
Service
Laramie, Wyoming

October
26
Montana

3RD ANNUAL N BAR RANCH SALE

GRASS RANGE, MONT. (Easily reached from Lewistown or Billings)
520 ANGUS SELL—Steer calves; heifer calves; Reg. bull calves; yearling
steers; commercial cows. Sale starts at 12:00 noon.

N BAR RANCH, Grass Range, Mont., G. R. Milburn, Mgr.

It's Angus Week! N Bar Sale, Oct. 26; Rocky Mtn. Feeder Sale, Billings, Oct. 27;
Angus Classic, Billings, Oct. 28-29.

von Forell Herefords at Auction

at the ranch, 5 1/4 miles north of

33 Bulls—25 Females Wheatland, Wyo.
Nov. 11

Entire crop Junior Yearling Bulls. A draft of
choice foundation females. Some will be
bred.

Nov.
20-21
Wyoming

WYOMING HEREFORD ASSOCIATION

Show—Nov. 20

Sale—Nov. 21

CASPER, WYOMING

120 of Wyoming's best bulls, range and herd bull prospects. They will
sell individually and in pens of 3 top range bulls. There will be 14 females.
TONY FELLHAUER, Agricultural Extension Service — Laramie, Wyoming

NEW FEATURES SCHEDULED FOR PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL

A high-standard Aberdeen-Angus sale will be a new feature at this year's Pacific International Livestock Exposition at North Portland, Ore., Oct. 7-15. The sale, to be held Oct. 11 under sponsorship of the Pacific Coast Aberdeen-Angus Association, will be preceded by day-long judging. . . . The horse show and rodeo to be held during the exposition will, it is anticipated, draw around 160,000 persons. For the first time in 39 years, such western horses as Palominos, Arabians and Quarter Horses are being added. . . . Also included will be exhibits and

contests for nearly 2,000 4-H and FFA members, and a two-day dog show (the 14th and 15th.)

HEREFORDS, ANGUS CROSSBRED

At Encampment, Wyo., William D. Sidley has just purchased an Angus bull for use on Silver Spur Hereford yearling heifers. The deal, for the son of Prince Sunbeam 44, son of Black Prince of Sunbeam, was completed with Andrew Anderson at the A Bar A Ranch. . . . The Dumbell Hereford Ranch at Alcova, Wyo., owned by Jimmy Grieve, has also reported marked success with use of A Bar A bulls on Hereford yearlings. . . .

Still more proof of the increasing popularity of Rocky Mountain-bred Angus was shown in a sale recently completed by Norman H. Smith of Larkspur, Colo., and the A Bar A Ranch of Encampment. The shipment, consisting of a carload of yearling heifers, was purchased by Cressfield Farm of Hopewell, N. J., owned by Mr. and Mrs. Fred Wierdsma. A draft of 10 head was made from each of the western herds. The Angus heifers represent the breeding foundation for the first venture in registered beef cattle for the Cressfield Farm.

NEW POLLED HEREFORD GROUP GETS GOING ON SALE PLANS

The newly organized National Western Polled Hereford Breeders Association will stage its first show and sale at Denver, Colo., Dec. 8-10. Polled Hereford breeders throughout the world are eligible to compete for the \$8,000 pot of premium money; the event itself grows out of the tremendous success of last year's National Polled Show and Sale at Denver, which proved to western Polled breeders the necessity of maintaining a permanent, annual show of this type.

John E. Rice of Sheridan, Wyo., has been elected president of the newly formed association; Irving Kesterson of Oakdale, Calif., vice-president; Walter Lewis of Larned, Kan., treasurer.

LA. ANGUS FIELD DAY

The field day held in August by the Louisiana Aberdeen-Angus Breeders Association at Inglewood Plantation, Alexandria, drew a crowd of around 350 persons who made the tour of herds, pastures and fields, partook of a noontime barbecue and heard a group of able speakers discuss pertinent topics. Rad Hall of Denver represented the American National, of which he is the assistant secretary; Sylvan Friedman of Natchez, La., president of the Louisiana Cattlemen's Association, was another guest.

GIVES HEREFORD CALF

The University of Wyoming announces receipt of a Hereford steer calf donated by Glen Barlow of Gillette. Money realized from sale of the animal next year will go into a fund for purchasing purebred breeding stock for research.

SECOND PHOENIX SHOW SET FOR JANUARY 4-7

The second annual Phoenix (Ariz.) Stock Show has been moved from its December date of last year to fit it into a better spot in the circuit, enabling breeders to go direct from Phoenix to the National Western at Denver. The 1950 Phoenix dates are January 4-7, inclusive. The management announces addition of 104 stalls to the cattle barn at the State Fairgrounds soon to be completed to swell the capacity to 520 head, and a new modern washrack capable of handling 32 animals simultaneously.

AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCERS

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SHERIDAN 4000 CALF

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September,

ously. The feeder steer pen class will again be a top feature (must be 1949 calves without supplementary feed prior to Oct. 1). They will be shown 10 to a pen, and all entries will be sold at auction. Closing date for all entries is Nov. 15.

SHERIDAN EVENT TO FEATURE 4000 CALVES AND YEARLINGS

High-grade feeder calves and yearlings are to be made available at the Sheridan feeder cattle show and sale at Sheridan, Wyo., Oct. 10-15. Approximately 2,000 calves and 2,000 yearlings plus a few two-year-olds will sell. A show and judging of calves will take place on the 10th and the sale on the 11th, perhaps running over to the 12th; on the 13th the judging of the yearlings, followed by selling on the 14th and 15th.

CROP SHOW SCHEDULED

Premium lists and entry forms are now available for the 27th annual International Grain and Hay Show, to take place Nov. 26-Dec. 3 at Chicago. Entries close Nov. 10 and there is no entry fee.

COMBINATION SALE PLANNED BY N BAR RANCH IN MONTANA

The third annual N Bar Ranch Combination Sale will be held Oct. 26 at the ranch in Grass Range, Mont., where new corrals, barns and other facilities have been added to accommodate the event for the first time. Included in the sale this year will be some 250 steer calves, 150 heifer calves, 40 registered bull calves, 30 yearling steers, and 50 commercial cows—a grand total of 520 head.

The sale marks the opening of five days of Angus selling in the Northwest. It will be followed by the Rocky Mountain Aberdeen-Angus Feeder Sale at Billings on Oct. 27, and then the Rocky Mountain Aberdeen-Angus Classic, also at Billings, on the 28th and 29th.

N. M. RANCH DAY ON DOCKET

Recent developments in ranching methods will be laid before ranchers and stockmen who make the tour of the experimental ranches north of New Mexico A. & M. College for the ninth annual Ranch Day, Oct. 10. The event, sponsored by the college's experiment station and extension service and the U. S. Forest Service, opens at Las Cruces on the morning of that date for a tour of scheduled points of interest.

SOUTHERN GREAT PLAINS RANGE IMPROVEMENT TOUR

The 13th annual range improvement program and tour will take place Oct. 8 at the U. S. Southern Great Plains Field Station, Woodward and Fort Supply, Okla. Feature address of the noon-hour barbecue program will be delivered by Bryant Edwards, Henrietta, Tex., president of the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association. Among

September, 1949

BULLS

FOR SALE AT PRIVATE TREATY

SERVICEABLE HEREFORD BULLS

Large Group to Select From

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25 RUGGED, PROPERLY-CONDITIONED, CORRET-TYPE, PEDIGREE-BACKED RANGE BULLS

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OCT. 4, the date of our 6TH ANNUAL ALL STAR SALE of 20 HERD BULL PROSPECTS — 60 TOP BRED HEIFERS

MESSERSMITH'S HEREFORDS

We have 8 bred 2-year-old heifers, 50 yearlings, now old enough to breed, for sale with a top priced bull at any time. The others, 95 long yearling bulls, we will begin selling Oct. 10, also at private treaty. One or a carload given the same careful attention. Write

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20 HEAD NOW SELLING

See them at the Home of the HomeBuilders.



Colorado's Oldest Herd

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HEREFORDS**

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GREELEY, COLORADO

items of interest to be viewed during the day will be a new grass from China that remains green 365 days of the year. Interesting developments in supplemental feeding will also be discussed, and grass-fat cattle will be available for inspection on variously managed native and reseeded ranges.

WYO. HEREFORD SHOWS SET

October 20-21 is the time set for the show and sale to be held at Laramie by the Southern Wyoming Hereford Breeders Association. On hand will be 87 top quality bulls (54 to sell individually and 33 in 11 pens of three uniform range bulls) consigned by 17 breeders.

* * *

The Wyoming Hereford Association will hold a show on Nov. 20 at Casper, with a sale on the following day. In this event 120 head of the state's fine bulls—range and herd bull prospects—will be featured; they will sell indi-

vidually and in pens of three top range bulls. Also included will be 15 females.

CATTLE SMUGGLING CHARGED

Breakup of a suspected cattle smuggling ring on the Canadian border was recently revealed when a federal grand jury returned indictments against three men in Whatcom County, Wash. Involved in the smuggling operations was a farm on the international boundary, according to the indictment.

IT WAS THE OXO

The PRODUCER hereby makes an apologetic bow in the direction of Stevensville, Mont., home of the OXO Hereford Ranch. Last month we failed to name the OXO as seller of two \$1,000 bulls to the Spokane Ranch at Wisdom. We agree with Don Smith, owner of the OXO Ranch, that the name of the breeder is important in reporting a sale of cattle of such quality. Thanks, Don, for calling our attention to the omission.

MUST GULLIES ON FEDERAL LAND CONTINUE UNPLUGGED

By Lynn H. Douglas

THOSE WHO ARE FAMILIAR WITH the soil erosion situation in the West know that erosion on privately owned land is being handled in much better manner than on public lands. I am referring to the kind of erosion that robs fertility and moisture needed by crops, forage and timber. Both gully erosion and sheet erosion are in this class, but gully erosion is the more serious.

It is significant that in the May, 1949, National Wool Grower, Harold J. Burbach, reporting on the annual meeting of the National Association of Soil Conservation Districts, made the point that the owners of private land who have been making such great progress in controlling erosion on their lands are critical of the federal government for not doing a similar job on federal lands. And well they might be critical, because these federal lands are often adjacent to or surround the private lands in the West. The forage, water, timber and

soil values of the public lands which afford worthwhile advantages to nearby private farms and ranches are being shamefully neglected by the entire government from Congress down through the bureaus concerned. With the Forest Service, the trouble is more within the organization. With the Taylor Act administration, it is more a case of starvation appropriations from Congress.

In almost 50 years the U. S. Forest Service has done little or nothing to control gully erosion except for a limited attempt during the Civilian Conservation Corps days of the depression '30's. The same thing is more or less true of the Grazing Service (now Bureau of Land Management) during its much shorter existence. During the last five years or so this bureau has been much restricted in total funds and is much less to be criticized for not doing a good job on erosion. But it can hardly be said that the Forest Service

has not received funds which could have been used for field work which would contribute to rehabilitation of eroded lands and overgrazed livestock ranges.

Last fiscal year the U. S. Forest Service received a total appropriation of over \$72,000,000. Of that, over \$25,000,000 is in the general fund which the Forest Service can use much as it chooses. From this general fund would come the money for erosion control on range work, if it were used that way. Let's see how the money stacks up over the past few years:

| | |
|------------------------|--------------|
| 1942 general fund..... | \$11,050,411 |
| 1943 general fund..... | 12,766,446 |
| 1944 general fund..... | 14,978,537 |
| 1945 general fund..... | 17,729,426 |
| 1946 general fund..... | 16,649,100 |
| 1947 general fund..... | 21,786,000 |
| 1948 general fund..... | 24,014,891 |
| 1949 general fund..... | 25,204,175 |

Only an insignificant part of these expanding moneys has been used for plugging erosion gullies, or building fences or other range improvements. They would have gone a long way toward filling the great need. In the sums are included a reseeding item earmarked by Congress for the purpose, beginning in 1946. It has averaged about \$500,000 annually since 1946—a really insignificant sum, considering the need is for \$100,000,000 for all range improvements, including reseeding.

The 80th Congress appropriated \$162,500 for range improvements, a mere drop in the bucket considering a need for range improvements to meet which no direct appropriation by Congress except this \$162,500 has been made in some 35 years.

Where has the money gone—the difference between \$11,000,000 and \$25,000,000 in a few short years? It has gone too often into expanding organization; into senseless paper work; into paper planning that never materialized. The most glaring example is the setting up of a Watershed Division in the Washington office of the Forest Service. A new division involves a high official, assistant to the chief, also an assistant with a relatively high salary, usually three or more clerks. If these divisions are set up also in the six western regions or in all 10 regions of the Forest Service, it runs into huge sums of money. The Forest Service needs a watershed division about as much as it needs a division of mountain scenery. I expect that to come along one of these days. The division of range management, the division of timber management, the division of fire control, the division of engineering—all these are involved in watershed management. What will the watershed division do? Tell these other divisions how to run their business? If not, I can see no merit in the new division. If so, it will mean only jealousies and bickering, such as now exist in personnel management, operation and fiscal control. The attitude of the Department of Agriculture on this matter of overlapping and superfluous organization is indicated by the

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May 16, 1949

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KANSAS CITY, MO.

SIOUX CITY, IOWA

OGDEN, UTAH

SAN ANTONIO, TEX.

following exchange of letters with the secretary of agriculture:

(From a letter to the secretary dated May 16, 1949): "May I appeal to you to correct the situation in the Forest Service, one phase of which pervades every other bureau of the Department of Agriculture? The unnecessary, burdensome, wasteful aspects of personnel management should be eliminated from that activity . . . Forest Service money required for this activity is needed so badly for conservation of natural resources in the national forests that it is nothing short of criminal that the real job of the Forest Service is so interfered with . . .

"Is it not your duty to see to it that the Forest Service practice conservation of natural resources? . . . The stopping of rampaging erosion and the restoring of forage producing capacities on the national forests by properly allotting funds is so important that it is . . . sinful to stay in the rut we have been traveling all these years."

(On July 1 the secretary wrote): "I wish to assure you that the department is engaged at all times in the improvement of its administrative mechanism. Currently, a department-wide effort is under way to examine all personnel procedures and streamline them to the fullest extent possible. This effort includes cooperation with the Civil Service Commission looking to desirable changes in regulations and to recommendations for needed legislation.

"Your emphasis on the need for additional appropriations for construction of range improvements is unquestioned. However, we do not agree that it would be desirable to attempt to augment the range improvement program at the expense of the other activities mentioned in your letter."

(Again, from a letter to the secretary on July 15): " . . . I am disappointed that you cannot see your way clear to look into the wasteful organization of the Forest Service. Expanding organization is always toward activities that do not contribute to conservation of soil, water, timber and forage. The failure to put money into management needs accounts for most of the overgrazing and erosion in the forests . . . The stockmen of Colorado and the Forest Service are at each other's throats now mainly because improvements were not put on the ranges all these years. I know whereof I speak. I was 37 years in the Forest Service in grazing work . . . "

All of the foregoing bears on the question of why the erosion problem is so much more severe on public lands of the West than on private lands. Probably prior to the establishment of the Soil Conservation Service the erosion situation on private lands was much worse than on public lands. At least that is indicated by Senate Document No. 199, published in 1936, written by the Forest Service, which so over-rated the conservation job the Forest Service was doing as compared with that on privately owned lands. But the Soil Con-

servation Service has given technical and mechanical help to private land owners, the land owners supplying the labor and money for the work. Later the soil conservation districts were formed—which has resulted in more enthusiastic grappling with the erosion problem. The self interest has naturally led the land owner to do all within his means to control erosion; whereas the public land agency does almost everything but the needed conservation of soil, water, forests and forage, the private land owner realizes his need and gets the job done.

A few years ago there was a congressional investigation of the Forest Service. It was the Barrett subcommittee. Remember? Individual grazing permit reductions constituted most of the subject matter of the hearings. If the subcommittee had gone into the use of money by the Forest Service and demanded that some of the senseless paper work of the Forest Service be discontinued, and the money used for erosion control, fences, water development, elimination of minor brush and trees, reseeding, poison eradication, driveways, etc., something of value might have come out of the hearings. If the new re-organization law based on the Hoover Commission's report does not result in some change in this western public land problem, a new congressional investigation of the Forest Service should occur and this time go to the bottom of what is wrong. Incidentally, much over half of reduction of grazing permits could be done away with if money needed for true conservation of western grazing lands were made available.

MONTH'S MARKETS

(Continued from Page 13)

up 13 per cent, while operations in the western Corn Belt increased 28 per cent. Eight per cent of the cattle on feed before Apr. 1 were marketed before Aug. 1.

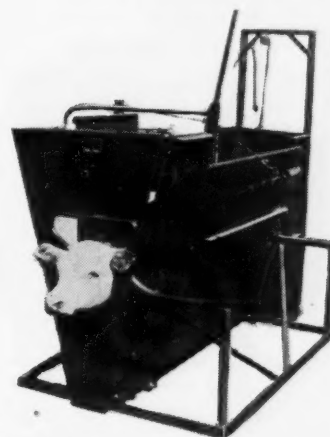
Compared with a month ago high medium to choice steers and heifers at Chicago were mostly 25 to 50 cents higher. Beef cows broke \$1.50 to \$2.00 in a month; canners and cutters were down less. Bulls were mostly \$2 lower; vealers were chiefly 50 cents to \$1 higher.

Some choice to prime 1,180-pound fed steers topped at \$28.85; the bulk good to choice scored \$25 to \$28.25. Mediums went down to \$19. Choice to prime mixed yearlings and heifers at Kansas City were up to \$29. The bulk good to choice heifers scored \$25 to \$27.25 at Chicago. Some at Denver reached \$28.35.

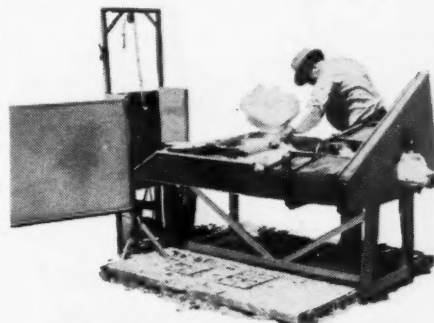
Good cows at Chicago were taken at \$17.75 and up, the big end of the common and medium selling at \$14.50 to \$17, only shelly canners going from \$11 down. Medium to good sausage bulls usually sold at \$18 to \$21. Vealers topped at \$27 sparingly most of the time.

Feeder steers will cost much below a year ago, the average price at Chicago for July at \$20.66 standing nearly \$6 below a year ago, average

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costs at Kansas City and Omaha showing more than \$7 decline. Despite these declines current prices for stockers and feeders on the markets are still much above what many are talking for the fall basis.

Those expecting to buy best steers under \$20 may be doomed to disappointment, yet very few are bidding above \$20 at country points although there have been a few deals made in Wyoming at \$22 to \$23 for known brands, a few calves in Texas having placed under contract at \$20 to \$21.

Many prospective buyers are in no hurry and intend to "wait out the market" until later. Reports are coming in from the Corn Belt area that they may pay up to \$23 if necessary later but are not inclined to go that high at present. Sales on the various markets to Corn Belt feeders have been mainly at \$20 to \$22, only something of stand out quality passing \$23 and that for cattle which may be marketed as fats before the market gets overloaded.

Chicago reported an uneven stocker and feeder market most of the month but closing prices were steady to only slightly weaker except for cows and common and medium offerings of all classes which looked 50 cents to \$1 lower. The indifferent demand for medium fat steers undoubtedly is the bearing influence on low-grade feeder cattle.

Good to choice western yearling feeder steers sold at \$23.50 to \$24 but the medium to good 500-to-800-pound steers are selling at \$18.50 to \$23, although common were available below \$17. Good

to choice steer calves cleared at \$25.25 to \$25.85. Denver reported some half-fat steers to a northern Colorado man at \$24.50 but little else passed \$22.50.

Some buyers have been leaning toward the bigger steers as they expect to get them back to market in quicker time than if they purchased calves or yearlings. The fear of a break in the fat-cattle market later is behind such plans. Everybody is talking a decline but are unwilling to say when it will arrive, but that situation was true all summer and yet the best cattle gave a good account of themselves.

Owners of pastures in the western area often report no cattle on them. They admitted they were timid about placing cattle in them for themselves and in many cases were unable to lease the pasture to others. One man told the others to put cattle in them and if the cattle did not make much he could consider what his margin amounted to as grazing rent, had he leased the land.

Hogs are being marketed lighter than last year, probably because of the fear of a price decline at any time. Sows were in liberal proportion but it is believed that the movement has passed its peak. Lard prices have been moving upward with regularity but still are not high enough to stimulate the demand for the fat and heavy hogs.

Early August hog receipts were the smallest since last September and that was partly the reason for the unexpectedly high market the first half of the month. There was a decline of \$2 to \$3 within a week's time but immediately the market recovered and over half the loss was regained.

Mid-August prices were generally \$1 to \$2.50 under a month earlier but showed less decline at the start of the final full week of the month. This loss was only on barrows and gilts as sows looked mostly steady. Best butchers at Chicago on the low day sold at \$20.75 against \$23.65 on the high day when prices were best of the entire year to date, but by August 22 best hogs sold at \$22.

The support price for hogs for the week ended Sept. 3 through the week ended Sept. 27 is \$18.50, Chicago basis. Support figures for a later period have not been determined. Many are exceedingly bearish for the period after the end of August and predictions are not uncommon that there will be many sessions when best hogs will be selling at \$15 and less, but it will take excessive receipts to force prices that low if current support and recovery is any criterion to go by. Some claim that low hog prices also will have a bearing influence on cattle.

The 1949 lamb crop of 18,906,000 was the smallest on record and 6 per cent below a year ago, standing 35 per cent smaller than the 1938-47 average. Despite the small lamb crop very little contracting of late has been reported in producing areas although there has been some

improvement in the demand during August at the public markets.

Some volunteer wheat has been reported in Kansas but most sheepmen to date are afraid to buy lambs for pasturage, remembering how the volunteer wheat dried up last year and forced owners to move their lambs to other feed. Apparently feed is abundant in many areas and prospects for grains are such as to encourage lamb feeding.

Many Idaho lambs are still showing up at Ogden, and already Denver is receiving some Western Slope lambs. The crop elsewhere is confined to a great extent to natives, although Chicago has been receiving an exceptionally large percentage of yearlings recently. A slight increase in the number of old ewes has been noted.

Closing prices for slaughter spring lambs at Chicago were around \$1 to \$1.50 below a month earlier and fat ewes were mostly 50 cents to \$1 off. The best lambs finished at \$24. Ewes sold up to \$10 early in the month but few late passed \$8.50. Some purebred two- and three-year-old breeding ewes scored \$12.50 and aged kinds made \$10.

COTTONSEED PRICES

On Aug. 5 the secretary of agriculture announced support for cottonseed at 90 per cent of parity or \$49.50 a ton. Prior to this the product was selling at \$30 to \$40; after the announcement it sold for \$40 to \$50. But the effect on cottonseed cake and meal was only temporary. Prices were reported up about \$6 but soon leveled off with the advance lost.

The trade, according to A. L. Ward, director of the educational service of the National Cottonseed Products Association, at first assumed that the secretary's announcement caused the rise but later on figures showed that a spurt in demand coincided with the secretary's announcement.

As to the future: There is very little carryover of cottonseed cake and meal and soybean meal and cake. Prospects for cotton yields indicate a crop approximately the same as last year; the soybean crop will probably be 9 per cent less than last year. Last year's cake and meal on the average through the season sold about \$10 a ton higher than at present. No doubt the large feed crop will tend to retard price advances in feeds of all kinds.

GRANGER COUNTRY

Little, Brown and Company, Boston, have just published "Granger Country—A Pictorial Social History of the Burlington Railroad," edited by Lloyd Lewis and Stanley Pargellis. The editors have succeeded in imparting to the volume the atmosphere of the West which coincided with the history and route of the Burlington lines. The pictures, which far outweigh the reading matter, are handsome and authentic, and altogether the book is interesting and well worth owning. (Price, \$5.)

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Longtime Outlook

(Continued from Page 11)

this year and for the increase in hog production that is under way.

Carry-over stocks of feed grains, especially corn, will be heavy on Oct. 1, 1949, the beginning of the new feeding season. If growing conditions are favorable this year—and reports from the Corn Belt indicate that crops are off to a good start—feed supplies in 1949-50 will again be large in relation to livestock. These heavy supplies will mean that the number of cattle fed will be maintained at a high level, and that the tendency for hog production to increase will continue.

Downward Trend Checked

It now appears that the downward trend in cattle numbers which began in 1945 was checked last year. On Jan. 1, 1949, the number of all cattle and calves on farms and ranches was 78,500,000 head, slightly more than a year earlier. Even though small, this was the first increase in four years.

Because of the large proportion of cows in the present beef cattle inventory, the number of cattle on farms and ranches can expand more rapidly than usually is the case. If expansion in numbers does take place, the tendency in the next year or two probably will be for range cattle producers to hold back more calves, heifers, and, in some instances, young steers for further increases. In the long run, this will mean more cattle and more beef, but in the immediate period ahead it will restrict the number of cattle and calves available for slaughter. Of particular significance to Corn Belt cattle feeders, it may mean that the number of young steers, heifers, and calves for feeding will be less plentiful.

The large corn crop last year and the generally profitable cattle feeding operations in recent years caused feeders to expand their operations quickly. On Jan. 1 of this year, the number of cattle on feed in the entire country was 19 per cent larger than a year earlier. The tendency to feed more cattle than last year has continued. On Apr. 1, 1949, the estimated number of cattle on feed was 23 per cent greater than on Apr. 1 last year. This indicates that marketings of well-finished slaughter cattle will continue large for the next several months.

If feed production is again large this year, cattle feeding next winter and spring probably will continue on a large scale. But shortage of the more desirable kinds of cattle, which may develop if range cattle producers hold back more than the usual proportion of calves, heifers, and young steers, would cause some changes in the kind of cattle fed and in methods of feeding. Perhaps this is one reason for the increase in the number of heavy feeders (steers over 900 pounds) placed on feed during the past year.

The combined 1949 spring and fall

pig crop is now expected to be 96,000,000, which is 13 per cent above 1948 and 8 per cent above the 1938-47 average. This means much larger pork supplies next fall and winter. If corn yields this year are average or better, the trend in hog production will continue upward. Thus beef cattle feeders face the prospect of the competition from increasing supplies of pork in late 1949 and perhaps throughout 1950.

Following the removal of price controls in 1946, prices of all livestock advanced sharply. Prices continued high in 1947 and through most of 1948. The principal reason for the high level of livestock prices in 1947 and 1948, as well as the high level of income from the sale of livestock, was the unprecedented strong consumer demand for meats. Not only did consumers receive much larger incomes than ever before in those years, but they spent a larger-than-usual proportion of their increased incomes for meat. Before the war, consumers spent about 5½ per cent of their income for meat, but by second quarter of 1947 this proportion had increased to 6½ per cent and it continued near this figure for more than a year. In the second half of 1948, the proportion began to decline and by the first quarter of 1949 it was down to about the pre-war level of 5½ per cent.

Meat Appetites Are Mysterious

We will probably never know definitely the reasons for the increase in the proportion of consumer incomes spent for meat. Nor will we ever know precisely why this percentage declined. It may have been that the post-war shortage of consumer goods generally in 1946 and 1947 was a factor causing consumers to spend a larger share of their incomes for meat. As consumer goods of all sorts became more plentiful in 1948, this may have caused consumers to reduce their expenditures for meats and they increased their purchases of automobiles, refrigerators, radios, clothing and the like. Or it may have been that consumers were just "meat hungry" after years of rationing. If that theory has any merit, it would explain why consumers went on a meat-buying spree for a time—and why, after their appetites were satisfied, they began to reduce the volume of their meat purchases.

At any rate, the results of the decline in consumer demand for meat soon became evident in the livestock market. Beginning in the fall of 1948, prices of both cattle and hogs declined greatly. The drop in prices of the better grades of slaughter cattle probably was the most pronounced on record for any period of comparable length. From August, 1948, to April, 1949, the average price of choice grade steers dropped from about \$40 to \$25 per 100 pounds, a drop aggravated last January and February by the tendency of many cattle feeders to bunch their marketings within a period of a few weeks. The aver-

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age price of hogs at Chicago declined from about \$30 to \$18 in approximately the same period. So sunset came rather quickly to what many had believed was the dawn of a new era.

Employment in June 1949 was a little

under a year earlier and so were personal incomes. It seems likely, however, that the proportion of consumer incomes spent for meat, a proportion that has already dropped to the pre-war level, will not decline further. If that assumption is correct, any changes in consumers' incomes—up or down—will be reflected in something like corresponding changes in the demand for meat. It seems likely, too, that the consumer demand for meat during the remainder of 1949, at least, will continue near the June level.

Cattle prices, of course, will be responsive to the weaker consumer demand during the remainder of 1949 as compared with the same period in 1948. Other unfavorable factors include prospects for heavy hog marketings the latter half of 1949, and, if feed production is abundant, the likelihood that marketings of grain-fed cattle will continue large. On the favorable side is the possibility that livestock prices have already dropped more than would be expected solely on the basis of supply and demand conditions. Thus a repetition of sharp declines in prices of slaughter cattle which occurred in late 1948 and early 1949 does not seem likely.

As has been pointed out earlier, the long-time demand for beef cattle feeders appears to be favorable, fundamentally. But even with this favorable outlook, we should not overlook the fact that in recent years there has been inflation in livestock prices. Not many people feel that a return to pre-war price levels is in prospect, but it also seems unlikely that the high levels of livestock prices in 1947 and 1948 can be regarded as a new normal.

Cattle Prices Swing in Long Cycles

Even before the war the trend in cattle prices was upward. In each year but one since 1937 cattle prices have averaged higher than in the previous year. And in each year since 1934 the purchasing power of cattle in terms of all other commodities has been going up. Upswings and downswings covering a long period of years are, of course, a feature of cattle prices. The upswing which may have ended in 1948 is one of the longest of record.

Long periods of rising prices are always favorable periods for cattle feeders. In such periods feeders who make the largest profits are not necessarily the most efficient feeders but rather feeders who buy the most cattle. This is true because the two important factors affecting profits once the cattle are bought are the cost of the gain in weight and the margin between the price paid for feeder cattle and the price received for the same cattle when sold for slaughter. In periods of advancing cattle prices this margin is nearly always wide, sometimes very wide.

A leveling off of cattle prices or a sharp downturn has the opposite effect on feeders' margins, as many farmers who fed cattle last fall and winter well know. For the farmer who buys heavy feeders for a short feed, mostly on grain, the results of a price decline usually are much more severe than for the farmer who buys lighter cattle or calves for a longer feeding period in which the use of grain is minimized.

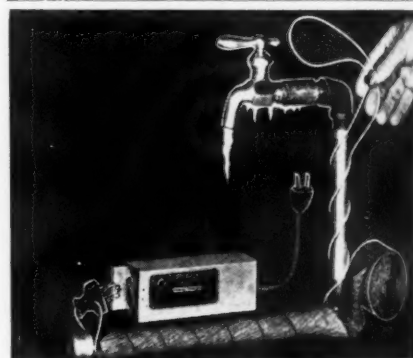
Although cattle feeders cannot look forward to a rising trend of cattle prices in the next few years, the outlook for

cattle feeding could scarcely be described as dark and foreboding. It is certainly less favorable than in other recent years. And it does call for caution and a greater degree of conservatism in the selection and purchase of feeder cattle than in other recent years—and a thorough recognition of the speculative nature of the cattle feeding business.

Beyond this, it means that cattle feeders will have to do a better job of feeding and marketing. In addition to the margin between prices of feeder cattle and prices of slaughter cattle, the other important factor affecting profits from cattle feeding is the cost of grain. Reducing this cost is always a challenge to cattle feeders, and many farmers have already made much progress in this direction. More feeders must and will make more progress along this line. And along with greater efficiency in feeding, feeders probably will find it desirable to follow a scheme of more orderly marketing. Periods of heavy gluts in market supplies of fed cattle, such as occurred last winter, as well as periods of extreme scarcity, such as last summer, are unfavorable to consumers and costly to cattle feeders.

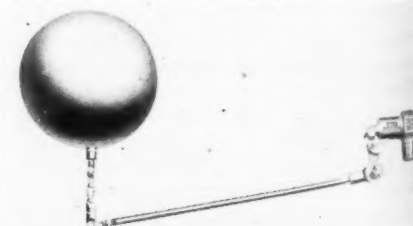
New Items

A new paint for asphalt shingles or walls is now on the market, manufactured by Dewatex Manufacturing Corp., New York 18, N. Y.



Electrically heated cable and insulation unit to prevent water or gas and oil lines from freezing. Made by Gro-Quick Co., Chicago 10, Ill.

Red rubber belting at agricultural prices is returning to the farm for the first time in nine years during which wartime restrictions had made it unavailable. New Holland Machine Company has it in rolls of various widths and types.



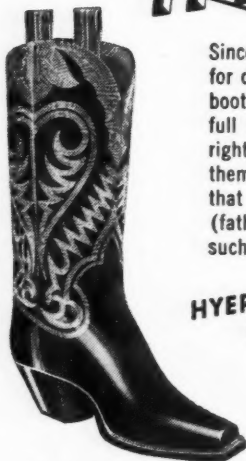
Cattle float assembly produced by Robert Manufacturing Co., Los Angeles

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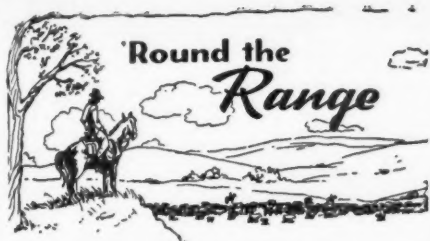
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THE CHIEF of the BAI, Dr. B. T. Simms, in August told the 14th International Veterinary Congress at London that under the area plan adopted in 1922 to eradicate bovine tuberculosis the percentage of infection dropped from a high point of 4.9 in 1918 to 0.3 by 1940, when all counties in the United States and 80 areas of Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands reached modified accredited status. Last year, of 8,000,000 animals tested, only 0.19 per cent reacted. The combined federal-state costs during the 32-year period amounted to \$269,650,000, of which about two-thirds was paid to farmers as indemnity. Nearly 300,000,000 tests were given in this period and about 4,000,000 reactors were slaughtered.

THE REVIEW and Album, covering events of the 1946 "Victory" edition of the International Live Stock Exposition and Horse Show is now in published form (at \$2.50 per copy.) It consists of nearly 300 pages containing accounts of the show's highlights, pictures of champions and a detailed listing of award winners. The 1947 Album and Review was published last year and is available for sale; the volume covering the 1948 show will soon be completed. Copies obtainable from the International's headquarters, Chicago Stock Yards.

A NEW livestock reporting service office, opening Sept. 1 at Stockton, Calif., will be in charge of Carol Wells of Sioux City, Ia. Governor Warren recently signed an appropriation bill providing funds for the expansion. James Hartnell is western supervisor of the Federal Market News Service, Livestock Marketing Division.

A PRELIMINARY estimate, based on June 1 reports obtained from 112,000 farms and supplemental information sources shows young chickens raised on farms in 1949 to number 748,671,000. This figure is 17 per cent higher than in 1948 and 4 per cent smaller than the 1938-47 average.

A NEW scale which measures the weight of livestock through electrical impulses and records pressures electrically has been developed under the Production and Marketing Administration. The electronic device will permit greater accuracy and speed and eliminate nearly all possibility of error in weighing animals at public markets.

A NEW material known as ACTH, or adrenocorticotropin, has come out of the

research and development laboratories of Armour and Company, Chicago. The material, a hormone produced by the pituitary gland, stimulates the action of the adrenal glands, and is being studied for possibilities of controlling a number of diseases such as arthritis, rheumatic fever, myasthenia gravis and others hitherto largely regarded as hopeless.

A RECENT USDA survey indicates that a larger part of city family income went for food in 1948 than in 1942, with the average of such American families spending an average of \$25.57 a week for food, or 32 per cent of their total weekly income, during this past spring. The study covers 1,600 households in 68 various sized cities.

ACCORDING to a BAI announcement, purebred domestic animals certified for entry into this country duty-free during the 12 months ended June 30, 1949, numbered 44,591—nearly 4,000 more than recorded a year ago. Of the total number imported 38,190 were cattle—a figure 11 per cent greater than a year ago. Shorthorns topped the list of beef-cattle imports. (All the cattle were received from Canada.)

The USDA REPORTS that for the first time since May, 1943, farmers have recently been getting less than half (49 cents) of each dollar spent by consumers for farm food products.

FROM ONE WHO KNOWS

Frances P. Bolton, member of Congress from Ohio, included a quotable quote in a recent mimeographed letter captioned "This and That from Washington." . . . "The most precious thing in the possession of the farmer is his liberty. Seldom . . . do you find a man going into farming to make a great fortune . . . very few great fortunes are made in agriculture. . . . Why do men cling to that avocation? Why do they work 60 hours a week and more, if they happen to be dairy farmers? Because they like to plan their own lives. They like to sit on the porch on Saturday evening . . . and plan freely not only as to what they will do on next Monday or next month . . . next year . . . and the next two years . . . or more. Farming has to be planned. You cannot close down a farm the way you can a factory. The man who does the planning is a man who must be free, and his most precious possession is his liberty." The words are taken from a statement of Farmer Jim Wadsworth of New York, one of the men who took part in a general debate on recently considered farm bills (the Pace bill, H.R. 5345, including the Gore amendment, and the Aiken bill.)

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Personal Mention

Knox T. Hutchinson of Murfreesboro, Tenn., has been nominated by the President to be assistant secretary of agriculture. Subject to confirmation by the Senate, Mr. Hutchinson's duties would relate largely to research and marketing. E. A. Meyer, since mid-1947 head of the Research and Marketing Administration, has resigned. His work is being carried on by P. V. Cardon, director of the Agricultural Research Administration.

The Columbia National Forest in the state of Washington has been renamed by President Truman in honor of Gifford Pinchot, first chief of the Forest Service, who died in 1946. The forest will now be known as Gifford Pinchot National Forest.

After 11 years in the post, Will J. Miller of Topeka is resigning as Kansas state livestock sanitary commissioner. Mr. Miller retired last year from the secretaryship of the Kansas Livestock Association, which he had also held for many years. He will be succeeded in the state livestock post by Glenn Pickett of Kansas State College.

Avon Denham has been promoted to the position of assistant chief of the Division of Range Management in Washington, D. C. He was assistant in range management of the California region of the Forest Service from 1944.

W. H. Black: Well known beef-cattle specialist and director of the BAI's Front Royal (Va.) Beef-Cattle Research Station; after brief illness; at age 60.

Notes on Aftosa in Mexico

ONE of the most encouraging statements on the subject of the foot-and-mouth situation came recently from Albert K. Mitchell of Albert, N. M., head of the advisory committee to the agriculture secretary. "Our committee," said he, "has closely followed every phase of the disease problem since the time that aftosa was first discovered in Mexico, and we now have every reason to believe that a successful conclusion of the eradication program is possible."

The Mexican-United States Commission for the Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease has announced the completion of the first vaccination of all susceptible animals in the quarantine zone of Mexico. To reach this milestone in the program, technicians vaccinated 13,071,533 cattle, sheep, goats and swine in a

quarantine zone comprising more than 200,000 square miles. A second round has covered about 55 per cent of this zone and is expected to be finished Sept. 15; a third dosing will start four months behind the second. Thorough inspection before and after vaccination continues.

On Sept. 3 the just-completed Institute for Scientific Research at Palo Alto, D. F., in Mexico, was dedicated in a ceremony which featured the presence of high state and national officials. In connection with the opening of the new laboratory, the Mexican eradication commission has issued a pair of booklets—one containing a comprehensive exposition of the foot-and-mouth disease situation in Mexico and the other telling a complete picture story of the new site for the intensified study of aftosa fever.

Letter from Skull Creek

DEAR EDITOR:

We have the wild hay all in the stack on this Skull Creek ranch and they are sure a pretty fine lot of stacks. When Slim Ackerman picked that hay crew down on the skid row in Denver he certainly got some good men. The haying went off without a hitch, didn't even have a runaway which was something quite unusual. The men all stayed sober until the hay was up, and I mean they were a real gang of men. Slim promised them a fifty cent bonus if they stayed through and they all did but one man who got sick and had to quit. He was a good man so he got the bonus anyway. They also cut and shocked that 70 acres of barley. It looks like it will go over 40 bushels. I hope they don't do any more farming though. If corn would do good over here they would probably decide we should raise some of that. We would have a heck of a time shucking corn. We also cut a lot of that wheat grass for seed. Believe we will have enough seed to scatter over several sections of pasture land.

Well, who do you think was our honorary foreman during haying? It was the old man. I mean the one who sold this Skull Creek ranch to our women folks. I told you once how we were keeping his quarters always ready as we knew he would show up. Well, he did. You ought to see him. He looks 10 years younger since he went down to those Muggyown mountains in New Mexico and quit hazing this gang around. We were sure glad to see him and certainly killed the fatted calf, so to speak. He brought his saddle and outfit along and rode out from town on a horse. He came riding in the ranch on the lope holding his Mexican hat out and singing, "Bury me out on the lone prairie," real loud like. He is still here and we

hope he stays until cold weather at least.

He called Tex and me out of the bunk house one night to ask us all about our married lives. Sitting there on the grass in the moonlight we sure told him about some of the tribulations we had gone through. He said, Stop, that is enough. You are breaking my heart and making me very sad. He said it simply shows how 2 old cowhands who were living honest and somewhat happy lives can become enmeshed in a cobweb of circumstances, as it were, and become 2 married men without any future, or have a single ray of sunshine cast down upon them. We told him not to take it so hard, that we were both strong and healthy men and able to bear our own burdens no matter how heavy they might become, and that really it was not half as bad as he imagined being married to 2 beautiful intelligent women like they are. We told him as the days and the months roll by we are liking women kind more and more and are really becoming somewhat fond of them, though we are fearful we may lose our individualism and become merely 2 husbands, nothing more. However, when we told him we were still drawing our monthly pay as cowhands he cheered up quite a lot and said he would devote his periods of mental activity to our case as he used to do when we worked for him, and would be in the jail house in town. He said no matter how sad life is it could be worse and maybe he can arrive at some conclusion as to how we may again assume our old stations in life as free and unfettered citizens of this great western slope our forefathers founded.

I doubt it.

Yours truly,
WILLIAM (BILL) WESCOTT.

AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCERS

Ranch Prices

(Continued from Page 13)

One such influence is the growth of our national population. It is now 20 per cent above that of 1930, and may rise to as much as 50 per cent above the 1930 figure by 1975. Beef is mostly grass. Not more than 15 per cent of our total beef tonnage is made through grain feeding. Can we conserve, expand and manage our range and pasture resources sufficiently to increase our cattle production by one-fourth or more above our recent all-time peak?

Also favorable to enhanced western stock ranch earnings and values, compared with our past concepts of "normal," is the rapid growth of our West Coast population. This growth rate has been much higher than the national average. It means a better market for western cattle, and especially for the mountain valley ranches that can produce good slaughter-class animals. The part of the United States west of the Continental Divide now consumes more beef than it produces, and the West Coast cities now reach as far eastward as Fort Worth and Omaha for some of their supply of the better grades of dressed beef.

There are other possible aspects of future western stock ranch property values that we will not attempt to cover here. One of these is the management betterments that can substantially increase western range livestock production efficiency and lower the production costs. In the long run, these may be most important. For illustration, we are developing new and more efficient types of beef animals, but to attain the full benefits of such animals, we must have improved and better managed range and pasture resources.

Where are we headed, in western stock ranch earnings and values? If we can conserve and improve our resources, their values will be substantially above those of the 1920-40 concepts or "normal" earning and values.

Pointed Paragraphs

From Public Relations Committee
American National Live Stock Assn.
F. W. HINKHOUSE, President
Iowa Beef Producers' Association,
Guest Editor

Much has been said and written during recent weeks relative to a period of deflation or a coming recession in the business world. However, all interested parties should remember that the buying power of the consumer of goods has not, as yet, been seriously impaired. On the other hand, the people's savings, as indicated by the increase in deposits in savings institutions over the same period a year ago, represent an ability to make purchases at some future time.

The checking of the downward trend in prices will come when the consumer returns to the market and not when he



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is able to return.

Most certainly no well informed producer of beef would willingly exchange places with any other faction of our economy under the present circumstances. This statement is not intended to infer that all caution should be discarded. All operations should be pointed to economical production along accepted and time tested lines.

The adage "Quality remains long after price is forgotten" applies to our feed crops as well as it does to the cattle which the rangeman produces and which find their way into our feedlots.

Considerable interest is manifest among feeders as to what the price is going to be on replacement cattle during the coming months. All should consistently keep in mind the effect of the government loan and purchase agreement on corn on the demand for feeder cattle. With the tremendous amount of corn now on Corn Belt farms, the corn acreage being high, and a present prospect of a

large yield per acre, it appears that the supply of feed will be sufficient to generate considerable interest in feeding cattle even though the government loan figure on corn is high. However, it must be remembered that the cattle feeder is in a conservative state of mind and intends to be cautious.

It is time for close cooperation between the purebred breeder, the range cattleman and the Corn Belt feeder. The breeders should earnestly and consistently endeavor to produce animals of the approved conformation. The feeders should give the animals in their care the very best possible opportunity to produce gains economically. Remember, "The eye of the master fatteneth the ox."

DROUTH AND BEARS—It has been right next to a drouth up here in this country. Even our mountain range isn't standing up, and out in the open it has been burnt up for some time. We have been having some bear trouble.—George A. Cross, Fremont County, Wyo.

CALENDAR

Sept. 9-10—Quarterly meeting, New Mexico Cattle Growers Assn., Hot Springs.
 Sept. 24—Tri-State Cattlemen's Assn. meeting, McCall, Ida.
 Sept. 25—Quarterly meeting, Northwest Oklahoma Cattlemen's Assn., Texhoma.
 Oct. 7-15—Pacific International Livestock Exposition, Portland.
 Oct. 8—13th annual Range Improvement Tour, U. S. Southern Great Plains Field Station, Woodward and Ft. Supply, Okla.
 Oct. 10—Ninth annual New Mexico Ranch Day, N. M. A. & M. College, Las Cruces.
 Oct. 27-28—Chicago Feeder Cattle Show and Sale, Chicago.
 Oct. 28-Nov. 6—Grand National Livestock Exposition, San Francisco.
 Nov. 26-Dec. 3—International Live Stock Exposition, 50th anniversary, Chicago.
 Nov. 26-Dec. 3—International Grain & Hay Show, Chicago.
 Dec. 8-10—Convention, California Cattlemen's Association, San Francisco.
 Jan. 4-7—Phoenix Stock Show, Phoenix, Ariz.
 Jan. 5-7, 1950—53RD ANNUAL CONVENTION AMERICAN NATIONAL LIVE STOCK ASSOCIATION, MIAMI, FLORIDA.
 Jan. 13-21—National Western Stock Show, Denver, Colo.
 Jan. 18-19—Mississippi Cattlemen's Assn. convention, Jackson, Miss.

CHICAGO LIVESTOCK PRICES

| | Aug. 19, 1949 | Aug. 24, 1948 |
|-----------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Steers—Choice | \$26.50-28.75 | \$37.75-41.25 |
| Steers—Good | 23.75-27.25 | 31.50-38.00 |
| Steers—Medium | 19.00-24.25 | 24.25-32.50 |
| Vealers—G.-Ch. | 24.00-27.00 | 27.00-30.00 |
| Calves—Gd.-Ch. | 23.00-26.00 | 24.00-28.00 |
| F. & S. Strs.—Gd.-Ch. | 21.50-25.25 | 25.50-31.50 |
| F. & S. Strs.—Cm.-Md. | 17.00-21.75 | 20.00-25.50 |
| Hogs—(200-240 lbs.) | 21.25-21.75 | 29.00-29.75 |
| Lambs—Gd.-Ch. | 23.50-24.00 | 26.50-27.00 |
| Ewes—Gd.-Ch. (Shrn.) | 8.00- 8.50 | 11.75-12.50 |

WHOLESALE DRESSED MEAT

| | Aug. 19, 1949 | Aug. 18, 1948 |
|---------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Steers—Choice | \$44.00-46.00 | \$50.00-52.00 |
| Steers—Good | 43.00-45.00 | 48.00-50.00 |
| Cows—Commercial | 31.00-33.00 | 26.00-33.00 |
| Vealers—Choice | 40.00-46.00 | 32.00-38.00 |
| Vealers—Good | 38.00-43.00 | 27.00-35.00 |
| Lambs—Choice | 48.00-53.00 | 43.00-49.00 |
| Lambs—Good | 46.00-51.00 | 42.00-48.00 |
| Ewes—Commercial | 18.00-20.00 | 17.00-20.00 |
| Pork Loin—8-12 lbs. | 54.00-56.00 | 60.00-62.00 |

COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS

| | Aug. 1 | July 1 | Aug. 1 | Aug. 1 |
|----------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| | 1949 | 1949 | 1948 | Avg. |
| Frozen Beef | 59,657 | 65,135 | 60,171 | 123,105 |
| Cured Beef | 8,356 | 9,102 | 10,388 | 8,792 |
| Total Beef | 365,454 | 419,590 | 508,213 | 426,205 |
| Lamb, Mutton | 6,485 | 6,761 | 8,557 | 10,663 |
| Lard and Rend. | | | | |
| Pork Fat | 97,198 | 103,890 | 174,304 | 166,673 |
| Total Poultry | 73,122 | 74,733 | 91,186 | 137,903 |

FEDERALLY INSP. SLAUGHTER

| (In Thousands) | | | | |
|----------------|-------|-------|---------------------|--------|
| | July | | 7 Months Ended July | |
| | 1949 | 1948 | 1949 | 1948 |
| Cattle | 1,090 | 1,046 | 7,428 | 7,205 |
| Calves | 501 | 577 | 3,686 | 3,919 |
| Hogs | 3,165 | 3,044 | 28,296 | 26,727 |
| Sheep | 976 | 1,195 | 6,540 | 8,210 |

THE COVER

Featuring a typy Angus bull, cows and calves in a range setting on California's Ferndale Ranch.

The 16,500 members of a CIO electrical workers' local in East Pittsburgh showed insufficient interest in a union store opened there a year ago to save them money on grocery bills through quantity buying. As a result, the store has just closed, \$4,700 in the red.



To THE EDITOR (Cont. from Page 4)

We have had a pretty dry season, but not bad enough to be really serious except in spots. Recent rains have helped and most ranches will scrape up enough feed to winter about a normal number of cattle. Farmers have had to sell off quite a percentage of their small herds and this has had some effect on the local market price. With so much early marketing, I wonder if the heavy runs predicted for later in the season will fail to develop. No cattle have been contracted here to date.

We hope to be in Miami for the convention.—Don L. Short, Billings County, N. D.

COMMENTS ON EDITORIAL—Under your caption "Not Invited." (P. 7, August issue) you list the National Association of Soil Conservation Districts. This association is made up farmers and stockmen, and represents farmers' and livestock organizations all over the U. S. They are right with us in their work and purposes and work for our benefit.—E. M. Little, Merrick County, Nebr.

(We have had several letters pointing out that the National Association of Soil Conservation Districts is made up of farmers and ranchers. That is true and undoubtedly the other association mentioned in the "Not Invited" editorial also have many members who are ranchers and farmers. The editorial merely pointed out that the old-line livestock and farm organizations were not represented as such.—Ed.)

SEES A DIFFERENT NEED!—Has been dry here since spring. Got first rain yesterday that amounted to anything since July 1; but have plenty grass, lots of hay—and some hoppers. But right in my section they haven't hurt much. We need some kind of bait to feed the bureaucrats more than for the hoppers, but I guess they might be kind of poison-shy, the way they increase.—J. B. Brewster, Niobrara County, Nebr.

MORE HOPPER DATA—(Re) your statement on hoppers in the August issue. . . . While bait has been used here in Montana, at least here in Rosebud County where we are acquainted with the area and have talked with ranchers where we have not actually seen the effect ourselves, the hoppers are still with us and in greater numbers than before the baiting. The baiting did kill a great percentage of (them), but two weeks later one could not tell the difference.

The report last year was to the effect that there would be, and there was, a light infestation. However, the hoppers took all the grass here, and (judging) from individual reports, it was as bad

or worse further east in Montana. They have taken practically all of the grass this year and the same reports are coming in from all around us. The matter is not fairly well under control. (When I refer to "all around us," I mean up to and over 100 miles—not just a few miles.)

As to the baiting, it is my personal opinion that to do any appreciable amount of good it would take repeated baiting about every three weeks, as the hoppers seem to hatch out all summer long. The baiting here was applied too late in the season to affect the later hoppers, as they had apparently laid their eggs. The baiting was started in June, and by the time they got to our own place, for instance, it was the 11th or 12th of July.—Mrs. Stanley Sloan, Rosebud County, Mont.

NEW

American National MEMBERS

CALIFORNIA: Baker-Arango Cattle Company; Borchard Brothers; T. K. Clark; S. C. Cornett; Bryce Euer; S. W. Foreman; E. F. Glenn; Grayson Owen Company; L. A. Hansen; Wm. Mehrten & Sons; Lester Miller; Murdock Land Company; Lawrence Oliver; B. A. Overland; John Owen; B. F. Porter Estate; John N. Rouff; Rowe Estate; Louis A. Rozzoni; O. D. Shaw; William Smith; E. C. Stone; N. C. Unfug; Ralph Wardlaw; J. LeRoy Wehr; George Winkler.

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MISSISSIPPI: Walter A. Swoope.

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NEVADA: Leo A. Bourke; Pitchfork Cattle Company.

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NORTH DAKOTA: Math Dahl.

OREGON: Vernon W. Bolton; Sam Carter; A. J. Cholin; Chas. H. Colton; Clifford E. Cunningham; Irl Davis, Jr.; W. N. Davis; M. B. Findley; J. Q. Freeman & Son; C. O. Galloway; Carl Holder; Herbert Johnson; Gottfried Hampfer; Wayne D. Leathers; Con Lynch; Oscar Maley; Q. E. Mathews; Morrow Brothers; David F. O'Connor; Leonard Parsons; Perry B. Pattee; F. A. & John F. Pugh; R. B. Rugg; Millard Thomsen; Ventura Veristain; Paul Wampler; Tom Wellington and Mrs. Phoebe Wellington; E. C. Whittom; Fred Witzel; J. R. Wood & Sons.

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WASHINGTON: John C. Kuhn; George R. Layton; H. L. Murray; Albert Nylander; Gilbert J. Peterson; Shirley Ward.

WYOMING: David Norris.

AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER